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WT-Int. Crude - $37.55
WTIC Posted - $34.25
Natural Gas - $6.41

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

June 28, 2004
Vol. 56 No. 50
10 Pages 50¢

Home of George A. Fuentez

JUN 28 2004

SISD trustees to hear final committee report

'Robin Hood' may have large impact on direction district takes

Snyder school trustees could act on recommendations from the district's facilities-study committee in a called meeting at 6 p.m. today.

It is expected that the committee will recommend moving the sixth grade to junior high, and decrease the number of elementary campuses, but effects of the state school finance plan, "Robin Hood," could have a major impact on what action the board takes.

At the June board meeting, committee member Staci Bollinger spoke in favor of moving the sixth grade from West Elementary to the junior high.

She told the board that she felt 100 percent positive about moving the sixth grade to the junior high. "Ninety percent of the parents I have spoken to feel the same way."

One reason given for moving the sixth grade is overcrowding at West, and under-utilization of space at the junior high.

The facilities report by Total Program Management (TPM) revealed that the junior high is currently the most underutilized building in the district.

While the committee is strongly in favor of moving the sixth grade, the recommendation as to the number of elementary campuses was debated as late as the group's last meeting on Thursday.

The TPM report stated that consideration should be given to the possibility of closing one elementary school, and reallocating students within the district.

The committee has estimated that closing one campus, probably Central, would save the district $350,000 in operating costs next school year.

In the June meeting, TPM project manager Bill Branum said the committee is not 100 percent in agreement on campus configuration.

Branum said the committee had talked about renovating East and West Elementaries, building two new elementary schools on the site of these campuses, or building one large school for all elementary students.

It is expected the committee's recommendation will be given to the board tonight, but it is unlikely that the board will act on it without additional study.

SISD superintendent, Dr. Ronny Collins, and executive director of finance, Karen Waller, also will update the board on the school's financial picture in light of Robin Hood.

"Because of the increase in local values and declining enrollment, the picture is a lot different than in the past," said Dr. Collins.

The district next year will be considered a "rich" district, said Dr. Collins.

"As it stands now, Robin Hood will impact the district's bottom line in a negative manner.

"It doesn't make sense, but we're going to have less money as a rich district than we did when designated a poor district," said Dr. Collins.

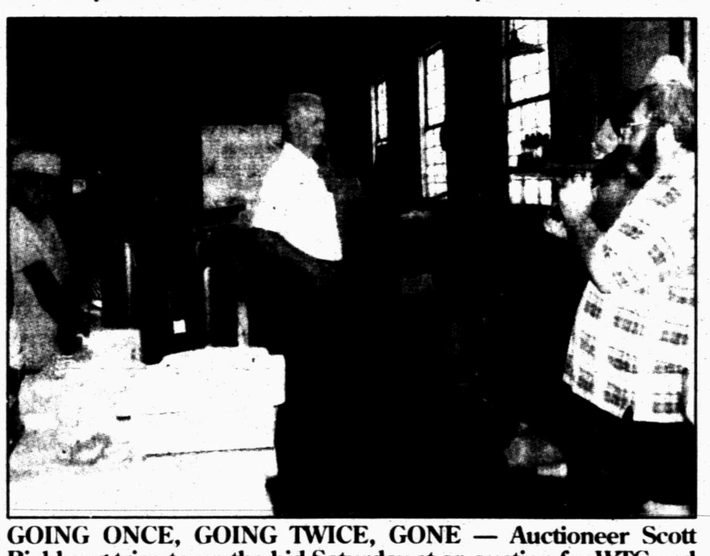
"This changes the whole picture. There's going to be a lot more to look at than just moving one grade. It's just not that simple anymore."

At least five resignations will be formally accepted tonight as the administration has received letters from Ronda Haire, SHS choir instructor; Lane Minze, SHS English teacher; Yvette Perez, Stanfield first grade teacher; Lynn Price, SJHS resource teacher; and Brock Rumfield, special ed instructor and junior high coach.

Four contracts for teachers will be considered for approval.

These include Christopher Ward, junior high coach and special ed teacher; Catania McGuire, fourth grade teacher; Danella Villanueva, sixth grade teacher; and Lesley Zorn, assistant band director.

The meeting will be in the boardroom in the administration building. Trustees also will meet in a called session Thursday for a budget workshop.



GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE, GONE — Auctioneer Scott Richburg tries to up the bid Saturday at an auction for WTC and the City of Snyder. Milton Ham, center, and Jesus Chavez viewed the bid items. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATED — DPS Sgt. Lee Tarter and Snyder police officer David Holley view the vehicle that was driven by Freddie Everton, 69, of Snyder. Everton was later pronounced dead at Cogdell Memorial Hospital by Peace Justice Deborah Boyd. Everton is thought to have had a heart attack before the accident occurred around 9:30 this morning in the 3500 block of U.S. 180. Judge Boyd said she is expecting to rule the death to be natural causes. DPS trooper Toby Zalman investigated the mishap along with Sgt. Tarter. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Control of Iraq transferred two days before deadline

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the two determined architects of the war against Saddam Hussein, celebrated the early transfer of political power to Iraqis today. "The Iraqi people have their country back," Bush said.

In the 15 months since Bush ordered the invasion of Iraq, more than 800 U.S. soldiers and more than 50 British soldiers have been killed, and a surge of violence preceded the handover that was scheduled for Wednesday.

"They've all given their lives in the cause of trying to give a better and different future to the people of Iraq," Blair said.

He called the accelerated transfer a landmark event, a day in which "democracy replaces dictatorship, in which freedom replaces repression, and in which all the people of Iraq can look forward to the possibility and the hope of an Iraq that genuinely guarantees a future for people from whatever part of Iraq they come."

The two leaders had defied much of world opinion, including longtime allies, in the march to war. "I'm not sure we've persuaded all of our critics," Blair said, standing next to Bush on the sidelines of a NATO summit here. NATO leaders, including France and Germany, set aside a year's worth of differences and agreed to help train Iraqi security forces.

Bush insisted: "We have kept our word" to deliver freedom and a new government to the Iraqi people.

Bush acknowledged the ongoing attacks that have killed more people since major combat ended than during the war itself. More than 800 American soldiers have died in Iraq.

"Their brutal attacks have not prevented Iraqi sovereignty and they will not prevent Iraqi democracy," Bush said.

The president spoke a few hours after the U.S.-led coalition handed off power to the interim Iraqi government, two days ahead of schedule.

"Fifteen months after the liberation of Iraq and two days ahead of schedule, the world witnessed the arrival of a full sovereign and free Iraq," the president said.

Bush marked the transfer with a whispered comment and a handshake with Blair, gathered with world leaders around a table at the NATO summit. Stealing a glance at his watch to make sure the transfer had occurred, Bush put his hand over his mouth to guard his remarks, leaned toward Blair and then put out his hand for a shake. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, a row behind the president, beamed.

The insurgents' "have a "very clear and simple objective" — "to try and prevent Iraq becoming a symbol of hope," he said at the news conference.

Bush referred to insurgents' threats to behead their enemies. An American Marine, three Turks and a Pakistani are now being held hostage by captors who have threatened to decapitate them.

The military situation is "tough, there's no doubt about it," Bush said, calling al-Qaida-linked militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi a "brutal cold blooded killer."

He said: "They can't whip our militaries."

"What they can do is get on your TV screens, stand in front of your TV cameras, and cut somebody's head off in order to try to cause us to cringe and retreat. That's their strongest weapon," Bush said.

"Prime Minister (Iyad) Allawi has said many times he will not cower in the face of such brutal murder, and neither will we," Bush said.

Floodwaters push residents from homes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Rising floodwaters have prompted the evacuations of dozens of Central Texas residents as persistent thunderstorms rumbled through the region, washing cars off roadways.

Emergency workers awakened residents of Mobile City Estates in northwest San Antonio just before midnight Sunday for mandatory evacuations of their neighborhood. Leon Creek rose above its banks, inundating the neighborhood of 70 mobile homes with water that fire department officials said rose quickly from a foot to waist-high deep without warning.

"We were just taking the precaution to keep people safe," police Sgt. Michael Starnes told the San Antonio Express-News.

Evacuations of about 40 residents from the area near Interstate 10 just northwest of Camp Bullis Road began at 11:30 p.m.

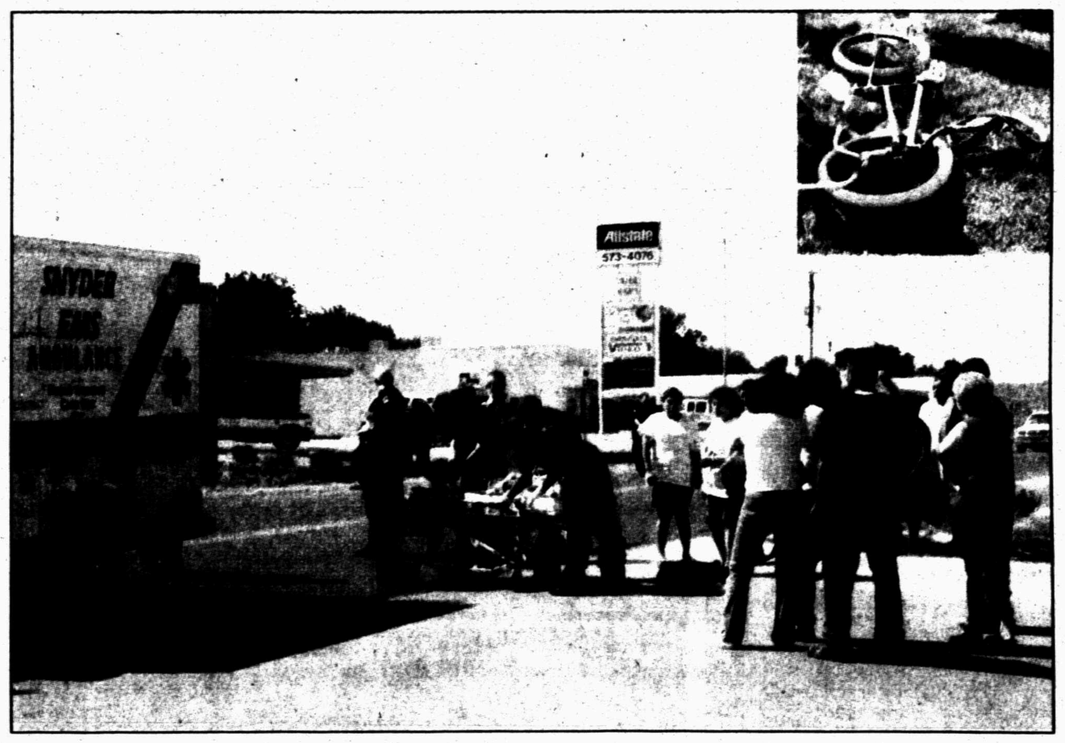
A San Antonio Fire Department spokesman said it was unknown whether any of the residents had been allowed to return to their homes.

People were trapped between pockets of high water in the neighborhood, said Starnes.

Resident Josie Malacara, 69, said she's lived there since 1975 and it had never flooded. "At first I heard sirens and heard lights and was curious about what was going on," said Malacara. "Then a fireman came to my trailer with a flashlight and said that it was mandatory for us all to evacuate."

High water ran over Interstate 10 and filled the median, leaving a pickup stranded in water that reached as high as the cab windows.

A pickup veered off a rain-slicked lane of Loop 1604 earlier in the day and traveled across a grassy median and into oncoming traffic Sunday morning, killing the driver of a sport utility vehicle.



CLOSE CALL — Stephanie Gomez, 6, was transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Memorial Hospital after her bicycle was struck by a vehicle driven by Modena Sullenger of Snyder Saturday afternoon around 4:30 in the 3200 block of College Avenue. Gomez was admitted for observation Saturday night, but released Sunday. No citations were given as the bicyclist failed to yield to the vehicle in the roadway. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

ASK US

Q—How does this year's rainfall total compare to last year at this time?

A—On this date in 2003, 9.26 inches of rain had been measured at the city's water plant. The total today is 14.86.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Jeanna Collier...

...has lived in Snyder off and on for 27 years. She owns the Lil' Bit of Country Bait Shop at Lake Thomas and is a volunteer firefighter. She has a son, Weldon, age 4. Her parents are Connie and Danny Collier, and she has a brother, Joe Dan Collier. Jeanna enjoys fishing, dancing, rodeos, being outdoors and spending time with the family.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The first basic of successful living is self-acceptance.
—Art Linkletter

SC appraisal board to elect new officers

The Scurry County Appraisal Review Board will elect officers and discuss procedures and hearing rules at its meeting Tuesday.

The board will also handle an order to correct prior year's appraisal rolls and discuss and review general appraisal information.

The board will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the appraisal district offices at 2612 College Avenue.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Christians and Civil Government," followed by "Why Be Baptized?"

GED, ESL classes

GED and ESL classes at Western Texas College are held from 8 a.m. until noon every Tuesday through Thursday and from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 30. Classes will then resume in August. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday and Friday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656, or 207-1325.

Water aerobics

Water aerobics for seniors is held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool.

SHS class of 2007

SHS class of 2007 will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the fellowship hall of Colonial Hill Baptist Church to plan their booth for July 3-4. Parents are invited. Call 573-2159 or 573-0877 for more information.

Life after loss support group

Odyssey Hospice will offer a life after loss support group from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday in the library of Colonial Hill Baptist Church. The class will meet for six weeks.

Genealogical society meeting

Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Scurry County Library. Kathy Nelson will present a program on "Great Women."

What's up guidelines

Items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

East Side VBS

East Side Church of Christ will have Vacation Bible School from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday nights through July 7. Call 573-3583 for more information.

STARTING from PYRON

By Jane Gilmore Rushing

Photos by Billie Roche Barnard

Introduction by A.C. Greene

Cost: $25.00

Snyder Daily News

3600 College Ave.

573-5486

Family of Marine shown in hostage video seeks prayers

WEST JORDAN, Utah (AP) — The family of Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun began an anguished wait as images surfaced from across the world showing him held by Iraqi captors and threatened with decapitation.

Hassoun's family issued a brief statement late Sunday confirming that the Marine, who is a Muslim of Middle Eastern origin, was the same soldier shown blindfolded with a sword held over his head.

"In the name of Allah, the merciful, the compassionate, we accept destiny with its good and its bad," Hassoun family friend and spokesman Tarek Nosseir said outside the family's home. "We pray and we plead for his safe release and we ask all people of the world to join us in our prayers. May God bless us all."

Arab satellite television network Al-Jazeera broadcast the videotape of Hassoun by a militant group threatening to behead him if the U.S. military did not release all prisoners in Iraq.

The tape displayed a Marine identification card in the name of Wassef Ali Hassoun. The U.S. military said a corporal by that name had been missing from his unit in the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force since June 21.

Judy Hassoun, Wassef's former sister-in-law, said by telephone from Bacliff, Texas, that Hassoun is serving his second stint in Iraq. She did not know he was missing and has not seen Wassef in about five years.

She said he was born in Tripoli, Lebanon, educated at American schools and is fluent in Arabic. "He is a great student," she said. He is "very peaceful, but very brave, very loving."

Judy Hassoun said Wassef, one of six children, studied hard and "always wanted to get good grades. He helped everybody. He helped his mother a lot."

She said Wassef moved to the Salt Lake City area and joined the Marines after moving there. Hassoun's relatives live in a multi-story home in an upscale subdivision in a Salt Lake City suburb.

Utah residents late Sunday extended their prayers and best wishes.

"We are very sorry for what happened," said Ali Mohammed, 46, while taking a break from tidying up after evening prayers at Al-Noor Mosque in Salt Lake City, where Hassoun worships when he is home.

West Jordan Mayor Bryan Holladay said the thoughts of all citizens are with the Hassoun family. "He's one of our Marines," Holladay said. "We're proud of the work he's doing, but we're hoping he comes home safely."

Louisiana man killed in Iraq

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Brenda Jobin was preparing for work when a military officer appeared at her front door.

"Once I saw the uniform, I just (thought), 'My baby,'" said Jobin, whose 23-year-old son, Army Spc. Jeremy Heines, was fighting in Iraq.

Heines' mother and stepfather, Henry, were informed that the young soldier had died in a firefight Friday night in Iraq when a rocket-propelled grenade punched through the windshield of his military vehicle.

"I just froze. I went into shock," Jobin said. "He was my heart. He wanted to do his part for his country."

Heines had joined the army after Sept. 11, 2001, and married a fellow soldier at Fort Hood, Texas, last year. They celebrated their first anniversary in Baghdad, while fighting the war.

Heines' fellow soldiers in the 1st Cavalry's 1st Battalion characterized him as a perpetually upbeat guy who planned to come back to New Orleans and open a bar and start a family.

He was nicknamed "Ketchup" and would sneak meals to Iraqi children and help his friend fight off war-induced depression.

"I never really saw him in a bad mood," Dejuan Williams, 23, of Louisville, Ky., said.

Williams was separated from his helmet and weapon by the impact of the rocket-propelled grenade that claimed Heines' life.

"He always would put a smile on your face. You could be having your worst day, and he would just say, 'Look on the bright side' or make a joke, and you would be out of that bad mood in just a second," Williams said.

Heines met his wife, Kristine Hanks of Florida, at Fort Hood. They had no children.

"He was the most outspoken guy I've every met about loving his wife," Spc. Christopher "Angel" Jesseman, 26, of Sanbornton, N.H., said.

Jobin last saw her son March 16 at Fort Hood, just before he left for Iraq.

"He called me on my cell phone all the time and tried to e-mail us every couple of days," Jobin said. "I was always telling him to stay safe and keep his head down, and he'd tell me he drove a Bradley (armored vehicle) — what could happen to him?"

She last spoke to him Thursday.

Heines graduated from Redeemer-Seton High School in 1998, his mother said. He had a younger sister and a younger brother, the children of his mother and stepfather. He had four siblings from his father, who lives in Georgia, from other marriages.

Mountain lion attacks woman on trail

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A woman was attacked by a mountain lion while hiking in central California, but was rescued when her friends stabbed the animal with a knife and threw rocks at it, officials said.

Shannon Parker suffered deep lacerations to her right thigh and injuries to her eyes during Saturday's attack, said Steve Martarano, a spokesman for the California Department of Fish and Game.

Parker, 27, of Santa Monica, was transferred to UCLA Medical Center on Sunday, officials said. Her condition was not immediately available.

Today's chuckle

Disposing of soiled underwear draws fine

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — A man who soiled his underwear and tried to dispose of the evidence by tossing it over the fence of the city's largest reservoir has been fined $5,000.

The city bomb squad and hazardous materials crew responded after an Erie Water Works employee spotted a black bag near the 33-million gallon Sigsbee Reservoir last month.

The reservoir was shut down for several hours while the bomb squad X-rayed the bag and hazardous materials crews waited to test it.

Police tracked down Troy Musil, 18, of Erie. He told police he'd been ill and soiled his underwear. He changed at a friend's house, then climbed over two barbed-wire-topped fences to ditch the skivvies.

Musil pleaded guilty last week to defiant trespass. The judge gave Musil a 90-day suspended jail sentence and ordered him to pay $500 a month for 10 months to the emergency agencies that responded.

If he doesn't pay, the judge said Musil will be jailed. A telephone number for Musil couldn't be found.

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events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-22-24-27-40. Bonus Ball: 20.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Number matching five of five: 4. Prize: $7,244.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 11. Prize: $2,390.

Number matching four of five: 493. Prize: $114.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 491. Prize: $101.

Number matching three of five: 20,524. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 6,468. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 30,208. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $6 million.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 22-13-24-34-37.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $39,884.

Winning ticket sold in: Austin.

Matching four of five: 113. Prize: $159.

Matching three of five: 3,773. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 38,601. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 7-0-2

(Night) 1-2-5

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Memorial to honor victims of bonfire

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Most of the construction is finished on a $5 million memorial to honor the 12 students who died during the 1999 collapse of the Texas A&M University bonfire.

While the structure has taken shape, completion is still months away. University officials said the memorial will be ready for its dedication this fall on the five-year anniversary of the collapse.

"It's already starting to take a reverent feel when you walk out here. It's got the feel of a cathedral," George Rogers, director of the Bonfire Memorial and a professor of landscape architecture, said in Sunday's edition of the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

The Nov. 18, 1999, bonfire collapse killed 12 Aggies and injured 27 others. The students were crushed after the 59-foot-high, wedding cake-like stack of more than 5,000 logs collapsed on them as they were building it on the campus polo fields.

The memorial, which is being built on the site of the collapse, is made up of a dozen rectangular portals and 27 granite stones that form a circle known as the Spirit Ring. The portals and stones symbolize the dead and injured.

Each 14-foot-tall portal opens to the center of the memorial and faces the hometown of the Aggie it honors, Rogers said.

"The idea is that the people who died that night became the missing links to the portal," he said. "By stepping into the portal, a person fills the void left by each fallen Aggie."

Bronze artwork that will bear a portrait and description of each fallen Aggie will line the portal interiors.

Workers also have built several hills around the Spirit Ring that will seclude visitors from the rest of campus.

World Almanac

Monday, June 28, 2004

Today is the 180th day of 2004 and the ninth day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1914, Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria, was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist, sparking World War I.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed, ending World War I.

In 1978, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against racial quotas in Regents of the University of California v. Bakke.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640), painter; Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778), philosopher; Joseph Joachim (1831-1907), violinist; Mel Brooks (1926-), actor/director, is 78; Kathy Bates (1948-), actress, is 56; John Elway (1960-), football star, is 44; John Cusack (1966-), actor, is 38.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1997, boxer Mike Tyson was disqualified for biting off part of his opponent Evander Holyfield's ear during a World Boxing Association title bout.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Religious persecutors are not believers, they are rascals." — Jean-Jacques Rousseau

TODAY'S FACT: From 1998-2000, the college participation rates of 18- to 24-year-old white high school graduates were 46 percent, compared with 40 percent of African Americans and 34 percent of Hispanics.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 44 — number of wins by knockout registered by Mike Tyson in his career.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (June 25) and full moon (July 2)

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor

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Politics for real offered at college

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — The Democratic National Convention will draw thousands of politicians, delegates and journalists to Boston next month. For area colleges and universities, that translates into one vast political science classroom.

Lesley University, in Cambridge, is already three weeks into a summer class entitled, "The Meanings of a Media Event: The Democratic National Convention 2004." School President Margaret A. McKenna said the convention was a "teaching moment" the school couldn't pass up.

One day recently, David Passafaro, head of the host committee, served as a guest lecturer at Lesley, presenting students with some of the logistical challenges faced by convention organizers.

The students listened attentively as he described the hurdles of throwing a party for 6,000 out-of-towners in a grumpy city already plagued by traffic problems and terrorism jitters.

Some looked puzzled as he prodded them for the reasons for a convention.

"To pick a nominee?" one student ventured.

"To rally the Democrats?" asked another.

"Very good," Passafaro said. "Who comes to a convention? Who can help me out?"

The answers rolled in: Delegates. Media. And then: corporate executives.

"Thank you!" Passafaro said, then disclosed his own reaction to being told that 567 private jets flew corporate execs into Philadelphia for the Republican National Convention in 2000.

"I said, 'I've got to find a place to park 567 planes? You've got to be kidding me.'"

Afterward, student Sondra Aiello, 36, wasn't particularly pleased by what she'd heard.

"All this money — it's disgusting. All this money that flies out the window in booze and all this. What for?" she said. "People are dying on a daily basis, and I think we should reflect on this."

Roberta Oster Sachs, a senior fellow at the University College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University, said some students may be repelled by what they see when, as in the Wizard of Oz, Democrats "pull back the curtain" to show the internal workings of the convention.

But Sachs, who is running a five-week summer course and placing more than 50 students in internships at the two parties' conventions — including four with The Associated Press — said it's more likely that students will revel in the unveiling of the spectacle.

"The cameras, the lights, the flags, the neon, the huge signage," she said. "People have spent years preparing for these four days. For my students to have the opportunities to witness this show will be very exciting for them."

Creating excitement is key to the courses, the educators say. Convention internships and volunteer work offer hands-on experiences that may spark interest in politics among young people who otherwise might tune out the conventions.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Mother stands her ground about letting kids near dog

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law bought a pit bull. Because I have small children and am concerned about their safety, I asked her not to bring the dog to my house. She agreed.

However, my in-laws frequently baby-sit our children. Although my mother-in-law promised that she would not allow the pit bull there when my children are at her home, my father-in-law now says that this places him in an awkward position. He doesn't want to choose between seeing his daughter — who likes to bring her pit bull with her everywhere — and having my kids there.

He has asked me to reconsider. I feel strongly that I should stand firm, even if it means my in-laws no longer baby-sit, which will be a loss to my children. What is your advice? — **WORRIED MOM IN ANN ARBOR**

DEAR WORRIED MOM: Small children should not be left unsupervised with any breed of dog. Children are unpredictable and could unwittingly do something to frighten or agitate the animal.

It would be nice if you and your sister-in-law could coordinate the visits of the kids and the dog. However, if that is not possible, unless you are absolutely certain that your children would not be injured, it's better to err on the side of caution and stand firm.

**

DEAR ABBY: Our 27-year-old college-educated daughter, "Peggy," has announced her engagement to a high school dropout with an abusive past and a rap sheet longer than my monthly grocery list. He supports two teenage children from a previous relationship and has been in and out of jail for assault and battery and DUIs.

Peggy has lived with him for the past year and has stopped speaking to us because we won't pay for the wedding. She and my parents feel we are wrong for not supporting her and paying for the wedding. What is your opinion on this? She is marrying him against our wishes. — **UPSET PARENTS IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR UPSET PARENTS: Please inform your daughter — and your parents — that a wedding is a GIFT, not an obligation on the part of the parents. For all of the reasons you have stated, you have ample reason not to pay for the wedding.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend in her early 40s who is dying of cancer. "Claire" had a Class II pap test years ago, but she never went back for a recheck.

Claire now has only a short time left. She leaves an adoring husband and three teenagers. Please remind your readers once again how important it is to follow through as instructed by their physician. My friend's death might have been prevented. — **GRIEVING IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR GRIEVING: Sometimes people with many responsibilities place themselves low on their list of priorities. Your friend may have been one of those — or she may have been afraid to return to the doctor. But one thing is certain, whatever bad news the doctor might have to deliver, the WORST is that because the patient procrastinated the condition has become so advanced that it's impossible to treat.

P.S. Test results are usually available in about a week. If a patient hasn't heard from the doctor's office by then, the patient should contact the doctor.

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Inmates paroled at highest rate in more than ten years

HOUSTON (AP) — The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles is approving the early release of prisoners at its highest rate in more than a decade, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The percentage of parole-eligible inmates granted release under supervision has grown from a low of less than 17 percent in 1997 to more than 30 percent so far this year, according to a Houston Chronicle analysis of state records.

The higher approval rating has helped stabilize the inmate population as the state prison system hovers at capacity. However, current and former parole officials say decisions to release inmates are made on a case-by-case basis and are not dictated by the number of prisoners.

"The No. 1 concern for the board is the safety of the people of Texas," said Rissie Owens, who chairs the parole board. "The major concern for us is, 'Is this person going to re-offend?'"

Some contend, though, that other issues are involved in the board's decisions.

"They have notoriously used the parole board as a backdoor gauge to control prison populations," said Bill Habern, a lawyer who has represented inmates at parole hearings for more than 20 years. "It's hard for me to believe that the criminals being voted on for parole today are one iota different than the criminals that were being voted on five years ago."

Victims' advocates link rising crime rates with rising parole rates. Robberies in Houston have risen more than 40 percent in recent years, from a 10-year low of 7,711 in 1998 to 10,985 in 2003, according to Houston police.

"It seems like the parole board is more interested in making room for additional prisoners than really looking out for the predictable impact that releasing violent offenders is going to have," said Kim Ogg, executive director of Houston Crime Stoppers.

Houston police spokesman Alvin Wright said the rise in robberies reflected a normal fluctuation over time. He called it inappropriate to tie rising parole approval rates with rising crime rates.

About 70 percent of parole releases are granted for those initially imprisoned for nonviolent crimes such as drug dealing, burglary or theft.

U.S. military deployments hurt Hawaii town merchants

WAHIAWA, Hawaii (AP) — On military paydays, this rural town surrounded by a sprawling Army base and vast pineapple fields used to bustle, living up to its Hawaiian name meaning "place of noise."

Lively chatter and laughter filled Kemoo Farm bar and grill. A few blocks away, a rhythmic hum reverberated from the four sewing machines at El'gant Alterations. Cash registers at restaurants rang with success.

No longer.

With 10,000 soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, Wahiawa businesses — most of which are mom-and-pop shops — are suffering.

"They're taking a beating," said Dan Nakasone of the Wahiawa Community and Business Association. "I was surprised to hear some were down 75 percent, which is scary."

Nakasone said he's hoping visitors and residents across Oahu will support the town during the deployment and "shop Wahiawa."

"We've been pushing that message for years, but now we really need our local residents to patronize our businesses," he said.

Schofield began sending soldiers on yearlong deployments in January with the final group sent last weekend. It is the largest deployment in the history of the division, and fewer than 2,000 soldiers remain in this community on Oahu's central plain.

"It's like a ghost town out there," said Rep. Marcus Oshiro, a Democrat. "There's a lot of people affected by this large-scale deployment. We're hoping people will find their way to Wahiawa."

Wahiawa is a multicultural, tight-knit community on Lake Wilson, the only fresh water lake on Oahu, and many families have lived here for decades.

At Kemoo Farm, located directly across the Army base, an empty table would ordinarily be scarce during lunchtime on military paydays — the first and 15th of every month. This past payday, only one table and three bar stools were occupied at noon.

Manager Donna Baker said there hasn't been such a drop-off in business since Desert Storm in the early 1990s, but it's worse this time.

"We're just kind of hanging in there," she said. "We're just waiting for them to come back."

David Phan and his fellow barbers also have been doing a lot of waiting at nearby Michael's Barbershop. Despite military haircuts costing only $6.25, the nine chairs at the shop were empty.

"Right now over here are days of snoring and restless walking back and forth looking at each other," Phan said.

He said more civilians are stopping in, but revenue is still down about 75 percent.

"A barbershop is like a fishing game. You have your good days when you're pulling out 10 fish, then you got your days when you pull five fish. Now, it's a year of bad days. It's been dry," he said.

Tywo Jordan, an account manager at the Rent-A-Center in Wahiawa, said his furniture and appliance rental store has been devastated by the deployments. About 80 percent of his customers are military, and traffic on California Avenue and the rest of the main streets in Wahiawa has been minimal.

"It's bad. It really is like a ghost town," he said. "We have big-screen TVs, computers, bedroom sets, freezers, refrigerators and stoves — all we need is renters."

Many of the troops' spouses and children also have left Wahiawa to be closer to their families on the mainland, he said.

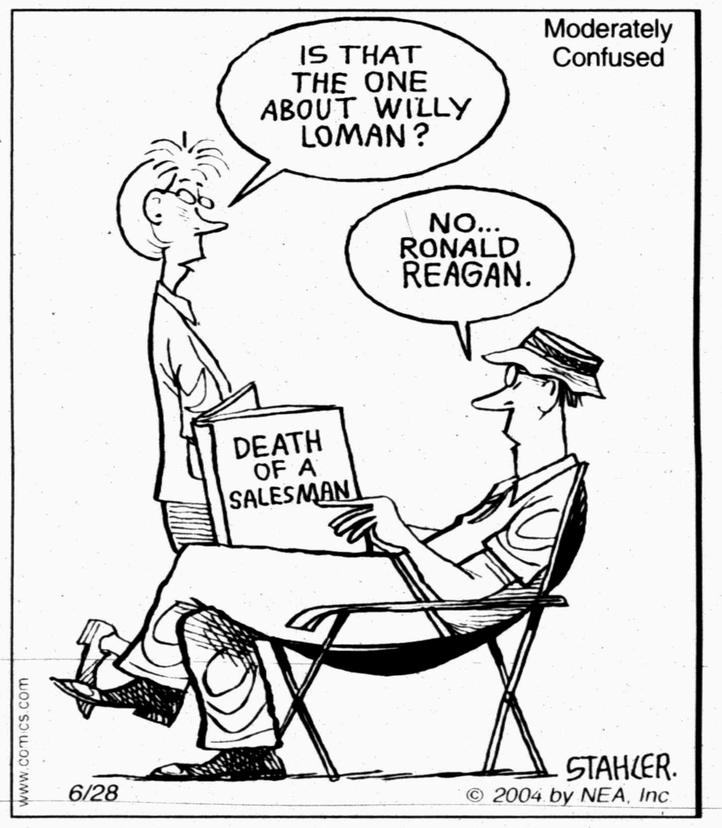
Most of the businesses in Wahiawa are in the town center just off the main route connecting Honolulu and the North Shore. There are no designer shops like there are in Waikiki, just friendly faces and a host of fast-food restaurants, bars, pawn shops, nail salons and used car lots.

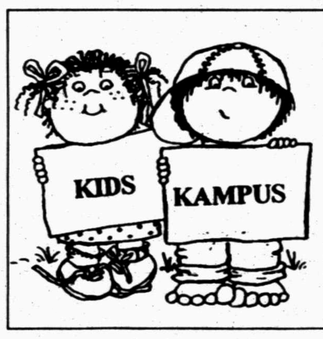
Signs supporting the troops are everywhere.

Several merchants have yellow ribbons hanging from their doors and windows. One restaurant has a banner advertising the "Shock and Awe Breakfast Special" for $1.75.

Military Auto Sales Hawaii, or MASH, has a sign that read: "Go 25th. Wishing you a safe and speedy return."

Oshiro said some events are scheduled to help businesses in addition to legislation setting up low-interest loans to small business owners hurt by the deployments. It awaits Gov. Linda Lingle's signature.





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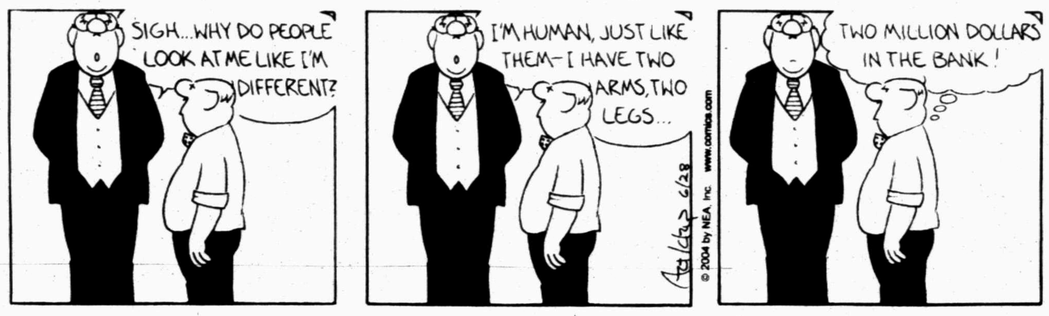

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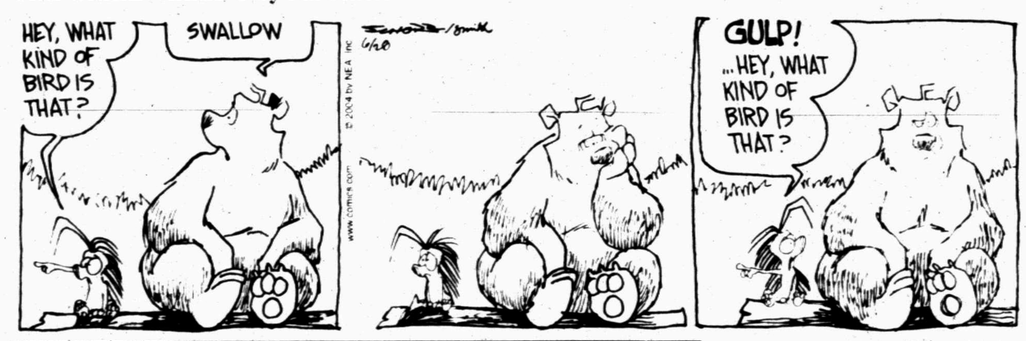

FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

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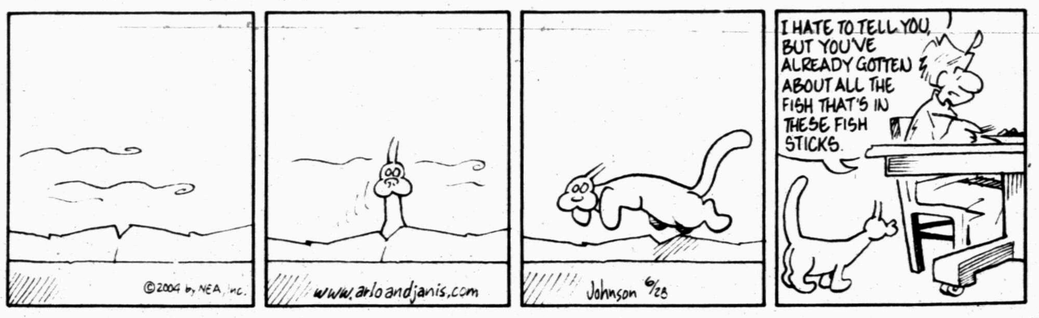

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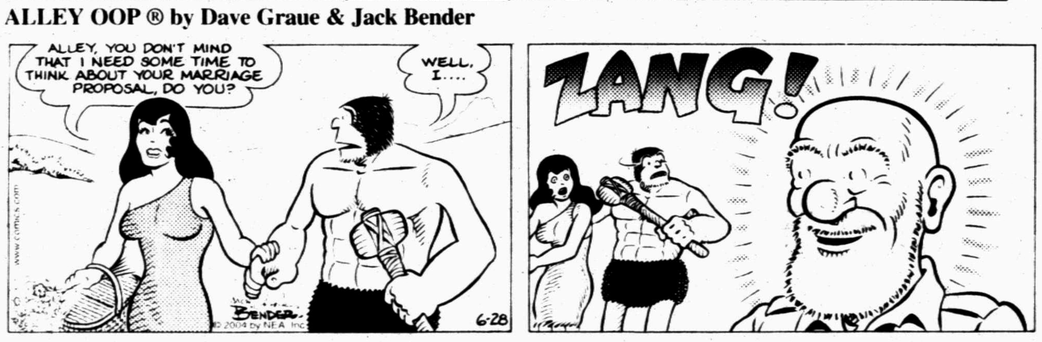

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"He's back!"

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Meditation practice
4 Wagon part
8 Hr. part
11 Roman poet
13 Civil disturbance
14 Zoologist's mouths
15 Midwest st.
16 Berlin single
17 Awful
18 Naval officer
20 Talkative bird
21 By means of
22 Choose
24 Rockies ski resort
27 Orchid-like flowers
30 Wooded valley
31 Poultry herb
32 Swampy
34 Alphabet ender
35 Charged particles
36 Denver's altitude
37 Ziti and linguine
39 Peruses
40 Inquire
41 So!
42 Sure thing
45 Astrology chart
49 Double helix
50 Waikiki setting
53 Safety agcy.
54 Gasthaus
55 Eros, in Rome
56 Bit of straw
57 Passing grade
58 Neap
59 Help!

DOWN

1 Sector
2 Flush with
3 Pen points
4 Fight locale
5 Sundial numeral
6 "Wolf Man" — Chaney, Jr.
7 Monsieur's summer
8 Half a Melville title
9 OPEC member
10 Nothing
12 Silly talk
19 — and tonic
20 Geol. formations
22 PTA and NEA
23 Diner slice
24 Chisel-like tool
25 Trickle
26 Appeal
27 Woosnam and others
28 Essay byline
29 Hawked
31 Wet thoroughly
33 Montgomery of jazz
35 — up to you
36 Grassland
38 Perched
39 Greek letter
41 Lapis lazuli color
42 Acct. insurer
43 "Green Gables" girl
44 Berry stem
46 Mother of Horus
47 Chan rejoinder (2 wds.)
48 Twist-offs
50 Bran source
51 French pal
52 Mortar trough

Answer to Previous Puzzle

E	R	R			G	A	B		Y	O	W	L
N	A	E		D	E	M	I		I	D	E	A
S	P	A		A	C	I	D		P	I	E	D
	T	R	A	C	K			S	P	E	D	
			P	R	O		F	I	E			
L	O	T	T	O		R	U	L	E	R	S	
E	T	E		N	E	E	D			I	L	L
G	I	N			A	L	D	A		S	U	E
	S	T	A	R	R	Y		N	A	K	E	D
			Z	A	P		B	O	B			
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J	E	E	R		P	A	L	E		I	A	N
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T	O	S	S		P	A	Y			I	S	M

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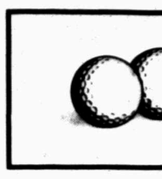
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"Y'KNOW, MRS. WILSON, SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT YOU'RE RELATED TO MR. WILSON."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



ALL-STARS — nament at 6 p. Valentine, Ren from left, Alex Juarez. In bac Staff Photo by

BABE RUTH Molinar, Blak Brandon Ram West, Riley D Barry Davis i

Scott

POTOMAC, his lead dwinc nine, Adam Sc driver at the 14 might be able on the short pa

His caddie s

"He was pre that," Scott sa iron out."

The rare ve tee shot wasn't left him in pos hole and get three shots. H

Ladies play

The SCGA h County golf co

Swingers c

Extra prizes County golf co Thursday, a h Barbara Heath register.

Volleyball

Snyder head 14 at the high All participant Deadline to 436-9067 for n

Snyder do

The Snyder urday. Events fee is $5 per p enter contact

July 4th v

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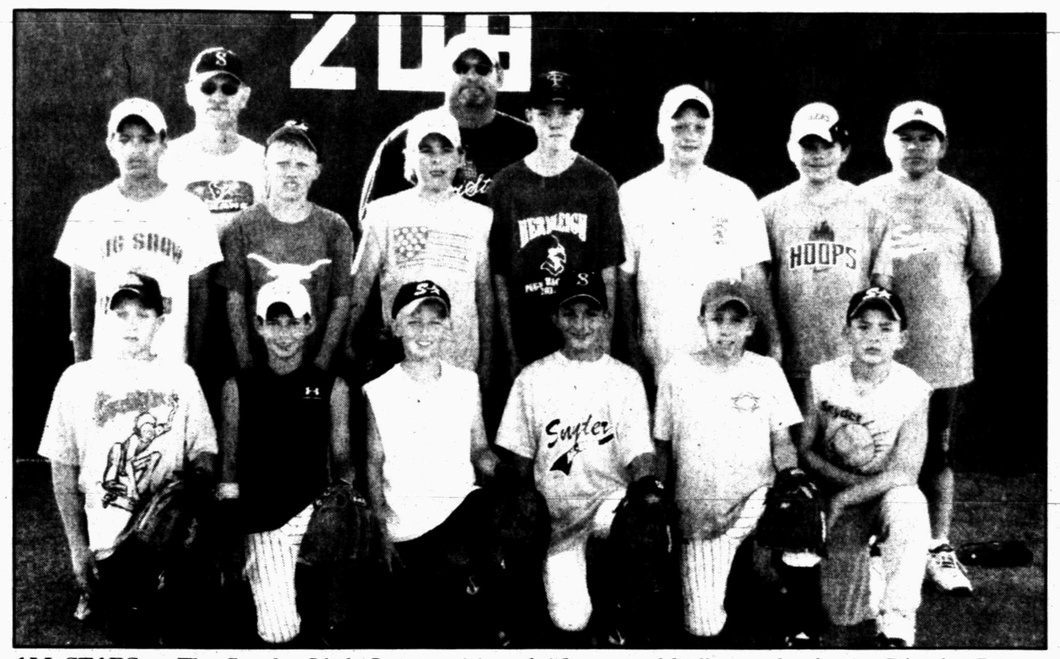
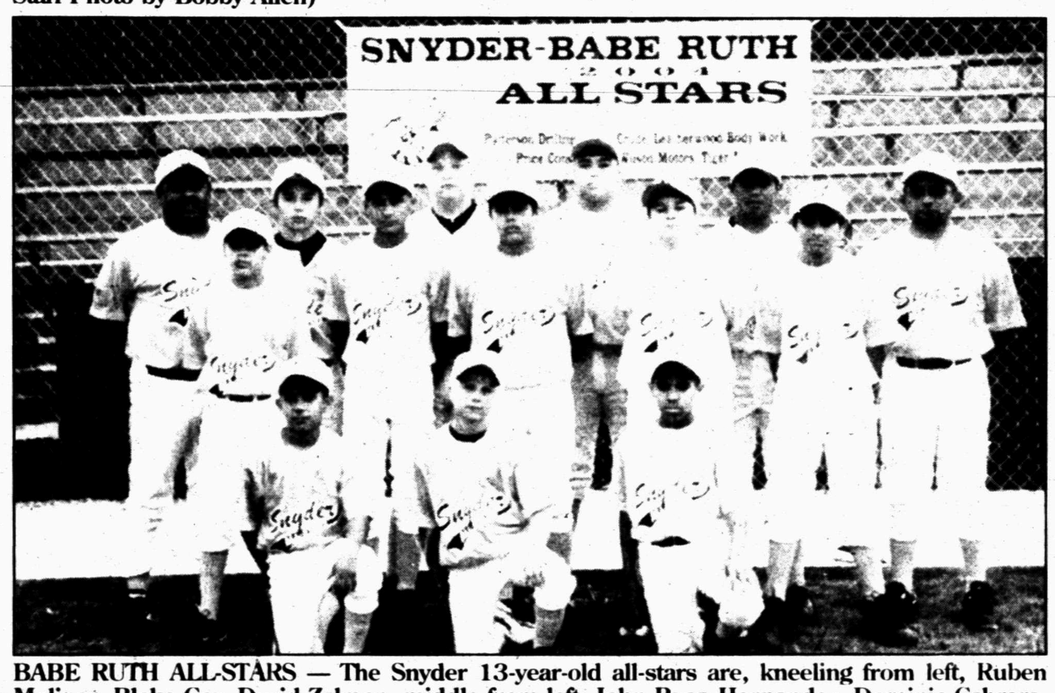
Athletic p

Physical exa high athletes will be incomi Others are a ipated in athle medical histo To arrange f rural health c

SPORTS



ALL-STARS — The Snyder Little League 11 and 12 –year-old all-stars begin the District 5 tournament at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Abilene against Eastland. Team members are, front from left, Miles Valentine, Remington Bloom, Anthony Taylor, Shade Roemisch, Clint Wall, Kelton Garcia, back from left, Alex Hernandez, Dakota Carroll, Jake Crenwelge, Dustin Dacus, Kaden Seale and Rey Juarez. In back ... coach Larry Wall, manager Scott Crenwelge and coach Reyez Juarez. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)



BABE RUTH ALL-STARS — The Snyder 13-year-old all-stars are, kneeling from left, Ruben Molinar, Blake Coy, David Zalman, middle from left, John Ryan Hernandez, Dominic Cabrera, Brandon Ramirez, Seth Sanchez, Emanuel Hernandez, back from left, coach Tony Perales, Gage West, Riley Davis, Tony Perales, Benjamin Gutierrez and manager Arthur Hernandez. Coach Barry Davis is not pictured. (Contributed Photo)

Scott claims Booz Allen Classic

POTOMAC, Md. (AP) — With his lead dwindling on the back nine, Adam Scott reached for his driver at the 14th tee, figuring he might be able to drive the green on the short par 4.

His caddie said no.

"He was pretty serious about that," Scott said. "So I took a 3-iron out."

The rare veto paid off. Scott's tee shot wasn't the greatest, but it left him in position to birdie the hole and get his lead back to three shots. He then birdied the next hole, holding off a challenge from Charles Howell III for a four-shot victory Sunday in the Booz Allen Classic.

"For a caddie to say that on the 14th hole on Sunday when you have a two-shot lead is pretty big," Scott said. "But that's why he's one of the best caddies out there."

The caddie is Tony Navarro, who knows a thing or two about trying to hold a Sunday lead. Navarro, Greg Norman's long-time caddie, was carrying the bag when Norman blew a six-shot lead in 1996 Masters.

Scott also led by six at the start of his round Sunday round in the Booz Allen. He was up by seven after his first five holes, but Howell made five straight birdies on the back nine to make it a contest. A tee shot that landed on the cart path at No. 13 didn't help Scott either, even though he made a great save to par the hole.

"I was getting a little nervy there on the back nine," Scott said.

Scott persevered with the birdie at No. 14 and carded a 3-under 68 for a 21-under 263 total, tying the tournament and TPC at Avenel records set by Billy Andrade and Jeff Sluman in 1991, when Andrade won in a playoff. Scott also broke the 36-hole Avenel record Friday and tied the 54-hole mark Saturday.

Sports Briefs

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday at Scurry County golf course. Format is blind nine.

Swingers celebration

Extra prizes will be given at this Friday's couples play day at Scurry County golf course. Registration is $15, and if 10 couples sign up by Thursday, a hamburger supper will be included after play. Contact Barbara Leatherwood at 573-8961 or Rick Mammolite at 573-7101 to register.

Volleyball camp

Snyder head coach Laura Moses will host a volleyball camp July 12-14 at the high school gym for incoming fourth through ninth graders. All participants should bring knee pads and a water bottle.

Deadline to register is Friday. Contact coach Moses at 573-8531 or 436-9067 for more information.

Snyder doubles tournament

The Snyder tennis booster club will host a doubles tournament Saturday. Events include open men's, women's and mixed doubles. Entry fee is $5 per person per event, and players may enter two events. To enter contact SHS tennis coach Ted Phillips at 573-2525.

July 4th volleyball tourney

A coed volleyball tournament will be held Saturday. For more information call 573-7321.

Athletic physicals

Physical exams, paid for by Snyder ISD, for high school and junior high athletes should be taken by July 28. Those requiring a physical will be incoming 7th and 9th graders and all third year SHS students.

Others are all new to Snyder ISD, any student who has never participated in athletics or who may have answered yes to questions on the medical history form.

To arrange for a physical, call the Covenant clinic at 573-1300 or the rural health clinic at 574-2488.

Astros snap Rangers' streak at eight games

ARLINGTON (AP) — Carlos Beltran leaped with his glove extended over the top of the wall, then dropped to the ground in a sitting position.

Even he wasn't sure he had made the catch until he looked into his glove.

Beltran's home run-robbing catch in the first inning proved huge, and the newly acquired outfielder scored the game's lone run as the Houston Astros won 1-0 Sunday to end the Texas Rangers' eight-game winning streak.

"When he came down and didn't show it right away, I thought it got over," said Roy Oswalt, who struck out nine while pitching eight shutout innings. "That saved the whole game right there."

Texas leadoff hitter Michael Young was already trotting halfway between second and third and umpire Ed Montague had signaled a home run. Then, Beltran got up and pulled the ball from his glove.

"When I jumped, I saw the ball hit my glove, but when I went down and opened my glove, I was like, 'Wow, I got this one,'" Beltran said. "I was kind of shocked and surprised."

The Rangers' winning streak was the longest in the majors, but they still lead the AL West. Texas plays its remaining 14 games before the All-Star break on the road without a day off.

It was the third time this season Texas was shut out, and the Rangers' first 1-0 loss at home since June 23, 1997, against Anaheim.

"That's impressive pitching on both sides," Texas manager Buck Showalter said. "It goes back to one thing: Beltran's catch."

Beltran was acquired from Kansas City in a three-way trade last Thursday. The Astros sent closer Octavio Dotel to Oakland as part of the deal.

Oswalt (6-6), who didn't walk a batter, overcame extra-base hits in three consecutive innings for the win. He threw 74 of 109 pitches for strikes.

Brad Lidge, who took over as the closer, pitched a perfect ninth for his fourth save in six chances — completing the Astros' seventh shutout. It was Lidge's second straight save since Dotel left.

Ryan Drese (4-5) threw his second complete game for the Rangers, allowing six hits over nine innings and striking out four. He had been 4-0 at home, where he has a 2.03 ERA in his eight games.

"It stinks, but that's the game," Drese said. "It was a game that could very easily have been 0-0 in the ninth."

Houston got its lone run after loading the bases with no outs in the second — Beltran and Lance Berkman singled, and Mike Lamb walked. Beltran scored when Morgan Ensberg grounded in a double play before Jose Vizcaino grounded out.

White Sox trade for Garcia

By The Associated Press

In one energizing day, the Chicago White Sox won the Windy City series and added All-Star pitcher Freddy Garcia to their rotation.

Now they're focusing on the AL Central title.

The White Sox beat Greg Maddux and the visiting Cubs 9-4 Sunday behind Esteban Loaiza, who overcame Sammy Sosa's two home runs.

Soon after the game ended, Garcia was acquired in a trade with Seattle for promising young catcher Miguel Olivo and two prospects. It's a big boost for the White Sox, who trail first-place Minnesota by one game.

"We have an opportunity to challenge for the division in a better way," general manager Ken Williams said.

The White Sox took two of three from the Cubs in the first crosstown series of the season. The teams meet again next weekend at Wrigley Field.

"I think everybody definitely gives a little more during these games because it's a playoff atmosphere," said White Sox first baseman Paul Konerko, who had nine RBIs in the series. "It's a lot of fun and it's grueling."

It was an emotional day for Olivo, who homered off Maddux but was too upset to talk about the trade.

The White Sox also gave up top prospect Jeremy Reed and minor league infielder Michael Morse. Along with Garcia, Chicago received catcher Ben Davis and cash from the Mariners.

"That's a big move for us. He is a quality starting pitcher. He is one of the best out there," Konerko said.

Garcia, who can become a free agent after this season, has pitched better than his record indicates. He was 4-7 with a 3.20 ERA in 15 starts for last-place Seattle. The two-time All-Star is 76-50 in his six-year career with a 3.89 ERA.

"It's hard for me to leave," the right-hander said. "I do love playing here."

Now he will pitch for White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen, one of his best friends.

SETTING UP CAMP — Head coach Chad Rogers watches the first group go through agility drills at the SHS football camp this morning. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Drag racer dies in crash

MADISON, Ill. (AP) — Drag racer Darrell Russell died Sunday after his car broke up and burst into flames during a Top Fuel race at Gateway International Raceway.

The 35-year-old driver had just lost to Scott Kalitta in the second round of eliminations at the Sears Craftsman NHRA Nationals when his dragster came apart while running about 300 mph at the end of the quarter-mile strip.

Russell, from Hockley, Texas, was unconscious when he was removed from the wreckage and taken to the St. Louis University Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead about two hours later.

Russell is the first participant to be killed in competition at an NHRA national event since Blaine Johnson died in a crash during a qualifying run in the 1996 U.S. Nationals in Indianapolis.

Sunday's event continued after a 45-minute delay.

BINGO
Every Thursday & Friday
6:30 pm
American Legion Post 181
1800 Ave. R

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	40	35	.533	—
Philadelphia	38	35	.521	1
New York	36	38	.486	3½
Atlanta	35	39	.473	4½
Montreal	25	48	.342	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	46	29	.613	—
Chicago	41	34	.547	5
Cincinnati	41	34	.547	5
Milwaukee	38	34	.528	6
Houston	39	36	.520	7
Pittsburgh	29	43	.403	15½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	43	33	.566	—
San Diego	39	35	.527	3
Los Angeles	38	35	.521	3½
Colorado	28	46	.378	14
Arizona	27	48	.360	15½

Sunday's Games

Pittsburgh 14, Cincinnati 4

Today's Games

St. Louis (Suppan 6-5) at Pittsburgh (Benson 5-7), 6:05 p.m.
Montreal (Kim 3-3) at Philadelphia (Millwood 5-5), 6:05 p.m.
Florida (Penny 7-5) at Atlanta (Thomson 5-6), 6:35 p.m.
San Diego (D.Wells 2-5) at Arizona (Reynolds 0-0), 8:35 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	47	26	.644	—
Boston	42	32	.568	5
Tampa Bay	36	36	.500	10½
Toronto	33	42	.440	15
Baltimore	30	41	.423	16

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	41	33	.554	—
Chicago	39	33	.542	1
Cleveland	37	37	.500	4
Detroit	35	39	.473	6
Kansas City	28	44	.389	12

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	42	30	.583	—
Oakland	41	33	.554	2
Anaheim	41	34	.547	2½
Seattle	30	43	.411	12½

Sunday's Games

Montreal 9, Toronto 4
N.Y. Yankees 8, N.Y. Mets 1, 1st game
N.Y. Yankees 11, N.Y. Mets 6, 2nd game
Cleveland 5, Colorado 3
Florida 11, Tampa Bay 4
Atlanta 8, Baltimore 7
Detroit 9, Arizona 5
Houston 1, Texas 0
Boston 12, Philadelphia 3
Milwaukee 7, Minnesota 3
St. Louis 10, Kansas City 3
Chicago White Sox 9, Chicago Cubs 4
San Diego 5, Seattle 1
San Francisco 5, Oakland 2
Los Angeles 10, Anaheim 5

Today's Games

Toronto (Halladay 6-4) at Tampa Bay (V.Zambrano 7-4), 6:15 p.m.
Baltimore (Bedard 2-2) at Kansas City (May 5-8), 7:10 p.m.
Texas (Bierbrodt 1-0) at Seattle (R.Franklin 3-5), 9:05 p.m.

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Two people killed in helicopter crash

CUSHING, Okla. (AP) — National Transportation Safety Board investigators and others will begin today to comb the wreckage of a helicopter that crashed into the Cimarron River, killing the pilot and a passenger.

The Bell 206B helicopter was removed from the water and placed on the riverbank Sunday, said Lt. Brandon Kopepasah, a spokesman for the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

The aircraft will be taken from the site by a Dallas company and be examined by the NTSB and officials from Bell Helicopter and Rolls-Royce, which supports the helicopter's Allison engine, NTSB air safety investigator Aaron Sauer said.

Officials want to know why the helicopter went down shortly after leaving a party at the Cushing Elks Lodge around 8 p.m. for a sightseeing trip.

Rescuers recovered the body of pilot Darrell C. Jameson, an Oklahoma City police officer, late Saturday and that of Cushing resident Nicholas Knigge early Sunday, Kopepasah said.

Ben B. Han, 47, of Oklahoma City; John M. Cooper, 46, of Glencoe; and Don Bradley Piccolo, 43, of Glencoe, were all hospitalized with injuries.

Han and Cooper were taken by helicopter to St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, where Han was in good condition with cuts and broken bones.

Cooper was in intensive care Sunday, Kopepasah said. Cooper suffered broken bones and a collapsed lung.

Piccolo was taken by ambulance to Cushing Regional Hospital and was in good condition Sunday, Kopepasah said. He suffered broken ribs, a tailbone fracture and cuts.

Sauer said the helicopter struck three power lines about 200 to 300 yards east of the site where the aircraft was found.

"The helicopter was relatively intact," Sauer said. "It was submerged about 90 percent in four to five feet of water. The landing skids were visible as well as one main rotor blade."

He said there was no evidence the helicopter had made contact with anything except the power lines on the way down.

The helicopter was not equipped with a "black box" to record flight data, Sauer said. Sauer also said he requested an autopsy and toxicology report on Jameson.

Sauer commended officials from the Federal Aviation Administration, the Cushing Fire Department and other local authorities and volunteers that assisted with the crash.

But authorities say Piccolo deserves much of the credit.

Piccolo said he helped Han and Cooper reach the top of the submerged helicopter, where they clung for about 11/2 hours.

The men are members of the Red Dirt Rangers, a country-rock band that performed at a 50th birthday party at the lodge before the accident.

"Those guys were hurting, Piccolo told the Tulsa World from his hospital room. "I was yelling as loud as I could.

"A fisherman saw it," said Piccolo, adding that the man then called 911.

Piccolo said he tried to keep his bandmates' spirits up by talking to them.

"I kept telling them (Cooper and Han) there were guys with flashlights even when I couldn't see because I didn't want them to get discouraged.

"I was talking to those guys, making them count to 10, so they wouldn't pass out, get their face in the water, so they could focus."

Piccolo's father, Don Piccolo, told The Oklahoman that a last-minute seating change saved his son's life.

"Brad was going to sit in the front seat, and that man (Knigge) said, 'Why don't you sit back there and I'll sit up here,'" Don Piccolo said his son told him.

Jameson, who worked at the police department's Springlake division, was giving free rides to guests at the party, said Jimmie Hunter, manager of the Elks Lodge.

Hunter said he was on the ride that preceded the crash.

The helicopter was built in 1983 and registered to Oklahoma City-based Interstate Helicopters Inc., according to the FAA's aircraft registry.

New law for 'fire-safe' smokes takes effect in New York today

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Smokers who linger between drags on their cigarette may need to be a tad more careful in New York. Their smokes will self-extinguish if not puffed on regularly.

Beginning today, New York becomes the first state to require new "fire-safe" cigarettes to be sold. The law is meant to cut down on the number of smoking-related fires.

For the past several months, companies have rushed to meet the deadline to supply vendors with the new cigarettes, which are wrapped in special ultra-thin banded paper that essentially inhibits burning.

But manufacturers warn that though the new cigarettes go out on their own, they're not fireproof and careless handling could still lead to fires.

"It's up to individual smokers to make sure that they do not let these products lull them into a false sense of security," said Ellen Matthews, a spokeswoman for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., the nation's No. 2 cigarette maker.

The lower-ignition paper does nothing to curtail the toxicity of cigarettes or reduce the health effects of smoking. About 900 Americans die each year and another 2,500 are hurt by fires started by cigarettes left unattended.

Customers can see if their pack of cigarettes comply with the new law by checking for a tiny mark next to the bar code — an asterisk, a dash or a diamond.

Philip Morris USA, the nation's No. 1 cigarette maker, has marketed its Merit brand nationally with the banded paper since 2000, but it had to tweak it to meet New York's standards, said Brendan McCormick, a Philip Morris spokesman.

Lorillard Tobacco Co., maker of Newport and Kent, has been selling the lower-ignition cigarettes in the New York market since March.

Last week, anti-smoking advocates sent a letter to the major cigarette makers, urging them to use New York's standards to produce and distribute fire-safe cigarettes to other states. Tobacco companies have said there's no immediate plan to roll out the new cigarettes nationally.

New York retailers have not noticed any change in sales or excessive complaints from smokers, except for some who are annoyed when their cigarettes go out automatically.

"The change has been uneventful. We're hopeful that there won't be any need or cause for customers to seek out other sources of cigarettes," said James Calvin, president of the New York state Association of Convenience Stores, a non-profit group representing 5,000 mini-marts and corner stores.

But if smokers head to neighboring states or buy regular packs of cigarettes through mail-order or the Internet, there's not much New York can do.

"If people go outside, that's a little bit beyond our control," said Peter Constantakes, a spokesman for New York's State Department, which helped draft the fire-safety law.

Most popular brands will be available in New York with the lower-ignition paper, but some tobacco companies have abandoned converting lower-end brands due to costs.

Moore's documentary first to debut as top weekend film

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" took in a whopping $21.8 million in its first three days, becoming the first documentary ever to debut as Hollywood's top weekend film.

If Sunday's estimates hold when final numbers are released today, "Fahrenheit 9/11" would set a record in a single weekend as the top-grossing documentary ever outside of concert films and movies made for huge-screen IMAX theaters.

Adding the film's haul at two New York City theaters where it opened Wednesday, two days earlier than the rest of the country, boosted "Fahrenheit 9/11" to $21.96 million.

"Bowling for Columbine," Moore's 2002 Academy Award-winning documentary, previously held the documentary record with $21.6 million.

"Fahrenheit 9/11," Moore's assault on President Bush's actions after the 2001 terrorist attacks, won the top honor at last month's Cannes Film Festival and has attracted attention from both sides in the presidential campaign.

The movie has been embraced by left-wing groups, which mobilized members to see it during the opening weekend. Conservative groups sought to discourage theaters from showing it and asked the Federal Election Commission to examine its ads for potential violations of campaign-finance law regulating when commercials may feature a presidential candidate.

"I want to thank all the right-wing organizations out there who tried to stop the film, either from their harassment campaign that didn't work on the theater owners, or going to the FEC to get our ads removed from television, to all the things that have been said on television," Moore said. "It's only encouraged more people to go and see it."

The Wayans brothers' comedy "White Chicks," about two black FBI agents who go undercover as white debutantes, opened in second place with $19.6 million for the weekend. That pushed the total for "White Chicks" to $27.1 million since opening Wednesday.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story," slipped to third place, taking in $18.5 million and pushing its 10-day total to $67.2 million. Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks' "The Terminal" fell from second to fourth place with $13.9 million, raising its 10-day gross to $41.8 million.

Premiering in fifth place with $13 million was the tearjerker romance "The Notebook," featuring Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams, James Garner and Gena Rowlands.

Despite good reviews, the family film "Two Brothers," about tiger siblings separated in youth and reunited as opponents in the ring as grown cats, opened weakly at No. 9 with $6.2 million.

"Fahrenheit 9/11" opened in 868 theaters, a wide release for a documentary but narrow compared to big Hollywood flicks. The film averaged $25,115 a theater, compared to $7,190 in 2,726 cinemas for "White Chicks."

Distributors Lions Gate and IFC Films plan to put "Fahrenheit 9/11" into a couple of hundred more theaters this Wednesday, when competition heats up with the release of "Spider-Man 2," summer's most-anticipated movie.

Lions Gate and IFC came on board after Disney refused to let subsidiary Miramax release "Fahrenheit 9/11" because of its political content. Miramax bosses Harvey and Bob Weinstein bought back the film and went looking for independent distributors.

On Nutrition By Dr. Ed Blonz Ph.d

Dietary copper sources are a concern

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am quite confused about which form of copper can be absorbed by the body. All multivitamin and mineral supplements contain the cupric oxide form. Yet I read an article that cited a statement from the December 1999 issue of the Journal of Nutrition that said the body cannot absorb cupric oxide. It took me quite a while before I found a multivitamin that contained the cupric sulfate the article's author advised, but now the same brand has switched to the oxide.

Was this statement wrong? Why else would all the companies use the oxide form? I am about to buy some for my family, as well as take a supply to my mother in South Africa, and am at a total loss as to what to buy. My husband and I can still eat well and probably get enough copper in out diets, but my mother is 92, has had a stroke and is watching her cholesterol. I was hoping that you might provide some guidance. — **B.G., Berkeley, Calif.**

DEAR B.G.: Before addressing your concern, let me provide some background on dietary copper.

Copper is an essential mineral element that is only needed in trace amounts. The adult Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) is 0.9 milligrams per day, rising to 1 milligram per day during pregnancy and 1.3 milligrams during lactation. The daily value (DV) listed on food labels, which is based on a standard set back in 1973, is 2 milligrams per day. Copper helps in the formation of red blood cells and is essential for normal hair and skin, as well as for antioxidant enzyme production, normal respiration, and the absorption and utilization of iron.

Dietary sources of copper include seafood (especially shellfish), nuts, legumes, meats (especially organ meats), whole grains, dark chocolate, raisins and mushrooms. Hard water can also be a source. It is estimated that we absorb about half of the copper we eat, and only hold on to what we need.

Copper deficiency is associated with increases in the blood cholesterol level and damage to the blood vessels, but — and this is key — it is wrong to automatically assume that instances of elevated blood cholesterol are caused by insufficient copper. Deficiencies are unusual, and, unless there is a particular medical condition, sufficient copper intake should not represent a problem for anyone eating a reasonable variety of foods. Copper is one of those essential dietary minerals that can also be toxic if taken in excess.

There is an interesting relationship between copper and zinc, another essential nutrient. The amount of zinc in relation to copper may be just as important as the levels of these nutrients individually. Zinc plays a role in many enzymes, including those involved in detoxification, sex-hormone production and wound healing, and is also involved in our senses of taste and smell. Too much zinc in a diet can deplete the level of copper in the body; likewise, if the copper intake is excessive, the level of zinc can suffer. (Other dietary components, such as vitamin C, can also decrease the amount of copper the body absorbs.) This antagonism only comes into play if there is an imbalance. (The RDA for zinc is 11 milligrams per day for adult men, 8 milligrams per day for adult women.) The point here is that we shouldn't overdo zinc and copper consumption, but there is no problem with taking the recommended amounts of these minerals at the same time.

The conclusion drawn in the 1999 study you mentioned — that cupric oxide (CuO), a form of copper found in some dietary supplements, is poorly absorbed — is true. Despite this, some supplement products continue to use this form of copper. One of the reasons is that space is at a premium in dietary supplements, and CuO contains more copper per unit weight (80 percent copper) than, for example, copper sulfate, which is about 25 percent copper by weight. Granted, we are only talking about 2 milligrams here, but volume and expense are the likely considerations for continued use of this particular form of copper. It makes sense to consider food your primary source of copper, but if you find yourself depending on a supplement, check the label and find one where the form of copper comes from cupric chloride and cupric acetate.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.10	11.55	12.02	+ .57
AT&T Corp	14.80	14.55	14.61	— .01
Albertsons	26.97	26.50	26.84	+ .34
Alltel	50.63	50.39	50.63	+ .38
AmEl Pw	32.71	32.12	32.70	+ .73
AndarkPtr	58.20	57.14	57.16	— .67
ATMOS Egy	25.24	25.03	25.11	— .09
Availl	18.79	18.66	18.78	+ .12
BP PLC	54.23	53.76	53.79	+ .07
BakerHughes	37.14	36.61	36.70	— .45
Bank of Amer	85.19	84.74	84.96	+ .96
BellSouth	25.55	25.20	25.34	+ .18
BurlNoSFe	34.95	34.55	34.81	+ .22
Caterpillar	78.78	78.21	78.46	+ .31
CenterPoint	11.60	11.45	11.51	+ .05
ChevronTex	93.80	93.05	93.14	— .25
Citigroup	47.10	46.85	46.88	+ .08
CocaCola	50.75	50.32	50.63	+ .53
ColgatePal	57.94	57.60	57.66	+ .31
CmclMetals	33.30	33.00	33.26	+ .53
ConocoPhill	77.56	76.45	76.51	— .68
Cooper Inds	58.49	57.95	58.36	+ .30
DaimlrChry	47.69	47.47	47.54	+ 1.00
DeltaAirLines	7.14	6.80	7.05	+ .44
Dillards Inc	23.00	22.58	22.88	+ .40
DowChem	40.69	40.19	40.20	+ .22
DuPont	43.99	43.55	43.86	+ .10
EastmanChem	46.00	45.35	45.82	+ .46
EstKodak	27.38	26.60	27.27	+ .92
EDS Corp	19.26	18.69	19.20	+ .60
Entergy	56.98	56.67	56.90	+ .42
ExxonMobil	44.62	44.38	44.40	+ .15
FootLocker	24.83	24.35	24.75	+ .06
GenDynam	100.70	99.65	99.97	— .63
GenlElec	32.83	32.55	32.59	+ .41
GenMills	46.05	45.65	45.86	+ .36
GenMotors	47.90	47.55	47.67	+ .02
GaPacific	35.71	35.35	35.68	+ .28
Goodrich	32.17	31.91	32.11	+ .11
Goodyear	9.85	9.35	9.50	— .35
GtAtlPac	7.50	7.30	7.31	— .09
Halliburtn	30.98	30.36	30.36	— .69
Hanson PLC	35.47	35.32	35.38	+ .39
HarteHanks	23.77	23.55	23.68	+ .28
HomeDepot	35.75	35.35	35.65	+ .40
Honeywellintl	37.30	36.84	37.22	+ .41
IBM	89.88	89.45	89.49	— .06
IntlPaper	43.68	43.33	43.47	— .02
JohnsonJn	55.00	54.71	54.84	+ .34
KinderMorg	60.26	59.85	59.87	— .13
Kroger Co	17.98	17.82	17.94	+ .03
LockheedM	52.13	51.50	51.59	— .38
Lowes Cos	54.40	54.03	54.16	+ .09
Lubys	7.00	6.98	6.98	+ .03
LucentTech	3.87	3.82	3.83	+ .03
MarathonOil	37.55	37.00	37.01	— .41
MayDeptStr	28.98	28.38	28.97	+ .52
Medtronic	48.50	48.16	48.21	+ .06
Motorola	18.40	17.89	17.90	— .38
NCR Corp	49.72	49.37	49.42	— .10
Navistar	39.30	39.07	39.20	+ .02
PNM Rescs s	20.48	20.20	20.46	+ .27
Penney JC	39.10	38.61	39.10	+ .40
PepBoys	26.36	26.05	26.07	— .08
PepsiCo	54.29	53.91	54.15	+ .15
PhelpDodge	78.10	75.98	76.00	— 1.73
PilgrimsPride	29.81	29.00	29.72	+ .79
Praxair s	38.89	38.51	38.86	+ .13
ProctGamb s	55.18	54.40	54.78	+ .03
RadioShack	29.37	29.11	29.23	+ .17
RoyalDut	52.99	52.54	52.55	+ .27
SBC Comm	24.28	23.96	24.21	+ .41
SaraLee	22.93	22.73	22.88	+ .19
Scripps EW	105.36	104.40	105.20	+ .87
SearsRoeb	39.33	38.82	39.08	— .17
SherwinW	41.18	40.50	41.13	— .07
SouthernCo	29.20	29.04	29.18	+ .13
SwstAirl	17.06	16.80	16.96	— .04
SprintFON	17.75	17.49	17.57	+ .17
Sunoco Inc	62.80	61.99	62.04	— .81
TXU Corp	39.78	39.41	39.65	— .12
TempleInland	68.24	67.90	68.19	+ .01
TexInd	41.61	41.05	41.31	+ .11
TexasInst	24.45	24.00	24.17	+ .14
Textron	58.90	57.92	58.41	— .39
TimeWarner	17.47	17.32	17.34	— .09
TrinityInds	31.59	31.42	31.56	+ .11
TylerTech	10.00	9.55	9.68	— .42
UnionPacif	59.29	58.81	59.23	+ .41
USSteel	34.91	34.50	34.82	+ .57
UnitedTech	89.88	89.40	89.81	+ .56
Unocal	38.56	37.79	37.79	— .65
VerizonComm	36.00	35.65	35.94	+ .17
WalMart	53.24	52.10	53.09	+ .58
WellsFargo	58.15	57.47	58.08	+ .55
WstnGasRs s	32.63	32.23	32.25	— .45
WinnDixie	6.72	6.59	6.59	+ .07
Xerox Cp	14.70	14.46	14.47	
YumBrands	37.94	37.42	37.53	— .09

Church creates scholarship in soldier's name

EL PASO (AP) — The Rev. Howard Johnson wore his son's Purple Heart and Bronze Star Sunday as he announced the Unity Missionary Baptist Church's creation of a scholarship in the name of Pfc. Howard Johnson II, one of nine Fort Bliss soldiers killed in an ambush in Iraq in March 2003.

The pastor said he was touched his son had not been forgotten by the El Paso community.

"It is amazing the people he has touched around the world. In Mobile (Ala.), they named a park after him and children are named after him," he said in a story in Monday's El Paso Times.

Johnson delivered the morning sermon at the church his son attended after being assigned to Fort Bliss.

JUN 28 2004

Teachers union says lawsuit only delayed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's largest union boldly pledged a year ago to rally states to sue the Bush administration over education spending under the No Child Left Behind law.

It turns out that the National Education Association has been the one left behind.

At least 30 state legislatures, including some led by Republicans, have expressed their displeasure over the law. Not one state, however, has agreed to join a lawsuit the teachers' union announced one year ago and planned to file by last summer.

"Maintaining a good relationship with the federal government that oversees your programs and suing them at the same time makes it a very difficult proposition," said Patty Sullivan, deputy executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

"You have to be pretty certain that you're going to win, because you really will jeopardize your ability to get other things. You have to think through the politics of that," she said.

The threatened challenge, which would have been the most direct shot at the heart of Bush's domestic agenda, is not dead, the union says. A few school districts have agreed to participate and the union is weighing when to go on if no state joins the fight.

Union leaders claim the primary reason the suit has stalled is that states fear retaliation by the Education Department. Yet participation by states is critical because they would have the strongest standing to sue, the union says.

"It's difficult to think that in 2004, there is fear of reprisal, intimidation and harassment," said Reg Weaver, the NEA's president.

Added the group's general counsel, Bob Chanin: "I would have thought they (states) would be jumping at this. We have a solid legal theory. We're prepared to do all the work. We just want to enlist them, but for a variety of reasons we haven't been able to push any state over the hump."

Union leaders could not offer proof of threats against states or name ones that fear retaliation. But they said state and local school officials tell them they fear cuts in discretionary programs, such as reading grants, or rejection of changes they want in state school plans.

Education Department spokeswoman Susan Aspey said the claims were "utterly baseless" and that the administration has proved it works closely with state policy-makers. "We're pleased the states have chosen to work directly with us rather than through the courts," she said.

A lawsuit would hinge on a provision of the law that says states and school districts would not have to use their own money to pay for any of the law's requirements. It is an important issue because debate has been continuous over whether the government is paying enough to implement the law.

The NEA courted a plaintiff from the Democratic Governors Association, a group to which the union makes considerable donations through its political committee.

The governors support the NEA but have opted for "rigorous discussions" with the administration about their problems with the law, spokeswoman Nicole Harburger said. She said Democratic governors did not fear reprisal if they were to join the suit.

The law is considered the most sweeping education overhau! in almost 40 years, a bipartisan effort intended to help schools succeed and to punish many that fail.

It demands highly qualified teachers in all core classes, expanded standardized testing, more information for parents and verifiable yearly progress among many subgroups of students.

As the law's effects began to take hold, most states debated or passed measures to seek relief. Vermont and Maine have passed laws prohibiting use of state money to pay for the law's mandates, the same basic ground of the proposed NEA suit.

A few considered opting out of the law, thereby rejecting millions of federal dollars for poor children, although none did. A lawmaker in one such state, Democratic Sen. Steve Kelley of Minnesota, said any fight for money by a state could be portrayed as opposition to the law.

"State legislatures support the idea of closing the learning gap," said Kelley, a leader of a task force on the law for the National Conference of State Legislatures. "You would not want to be in a position where somebody on the other side could say that you are suing in order to preserve an inequality of results for kids."

States cited other reasons for staying out of the suit — internal disputes among crucial personnel or organizations, lack of data about their state's costs, hopes that Congress will change the law.

Meanwhile, the states are feeling heat from below. Half face suits from local agencies over the adequacy of school financing; that may grow as scores emerge about achievement of poor and minority students, reporting required by the new law.

Merchants say tourism down in Galveston

GALVESTON (AP) — Billboards in the Houston area are advertising Galveston as "A getaway that is not far away."

But apparently this year, tourists seem to be keeping the island city's beaches and shops at bay.

Merchants have said this year's tourist season isn't going as well as it should be.

Corinna Hughes, a longtime manager at the Fantasy Island gift shop on Galveston's Seawall, told her store's new owners that come Memorial Day, business would get so busy, they wouldn't have time to eat.

But the large crowds never came.

"I've been here 19 years and I've never seen it like this before," Hughes said.

The number of visitors at the beach parks are also down.

Vehicle counts for Stewart Beach plummeted by 5,000 in both April and May. At Apffel Park, there were 7,372 fewer cars in April and 8,244 fewer in May, The Galveston County Daily News reported Sunday.

"We noticed a drop particularly on the weekdays in tourism," said Peter Davis, assistant director of the beach patrol.

Allen Flores, concessionaire at East Beach and owner of Bettah Beach Productions, said he thinks all Galveston businesses are hurting.

"Some people are saying we are only 10 percent down," he said. "I think everybody is down, and I think everybody is down significantly."

Flores blamed the Galveston Park Board of Trustees for not advertising the island enough. The park board oversees the Convention and Visitors Bureau, which helps promote the island as a tourist destination.

"The bottom line is somebody was asleep at the wheel when it came to marketing Galveston for the summer 2004, and I am hoping that this is an eye opener and they put adequate money toward the 2005 season," he said.

Lou Muller, park board executive director, said he doesn't know what's causing the decline.

Some say higher entrance fees at the beaches are keeping crowds away. But the $2 increase went into effect in April 2003 and had little effect on the numbers then. Others say higher gas prices are to blame.

Muller said his organization recently began running radio ads for Galveston's beaches.

"I think it's going to be tough," he said. "Hopefully we can gain some ground, but it will be difficult to make up the difference."

But not everyone is hurting.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, June 29, 2004

Associations and contacts in your chosen field of endeavor can play important, helpful roles in making you more successful than you may be on your own in the year ahead. The more you share, the more you'll receive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Your possibilities for turning a profit today are much stronger than they will be toward the end of the week. Don't sit on anything that requires immediate action if you hope to gain.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If you are a bit restless today and yearning for some social interaction, don't wait for your friends to get in touch with you. Arrange something fun yourself and you'll have plenty of takers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Chances are you'll find yourself in a position today to be able to finalize a matter that is of great importance to you. Don't wait to find out if it is a mirage. Act on it with assurance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — This is the right day to clean up matters that have been bothering you. You can clear the air with things that need explaining, refinance a high debt or make a breakthrough in a career situation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Anything you rightfully deserve, from recognition to remuneration, has a good chance of being awarded to you today. If you don't receive it now, chances are the plans are in the works.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Thank goodness you'll be in a positive frame of mind today because any actions you take now pertaining to projects with far-reaching benefits will be there for the taking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There are indications today that someone who likes you will be making room for you in a successful endeavor that she or he has going. You won't get another chance, so make time for it now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Although you work exceptionally well as a loner, partnership arrangements today appear to be the most favorable for you, so be a team player. It looks like the more heads, the better.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Instead of waiting to be told what to do today, take direct action at work when it comes to your special area of responsibilities. By taking the initiative, it'll make you look good.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Someone you've had your eye on lately (in whom you've been romantically interested) may catch your gaze today and be responsive to your ardor. Don't be bashful about making your presence felt.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Volunteer to take care of a matter today that the entire family is most eager to have cleared up. You are the person with the patience and tolerance to see things through to conclusion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — No one will need to tell you that your judgment is very sound today. Once you make a decision you'll not hesitate for a moment to act on it and do so with great results.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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McCartney performs

GLASTONBURY, England (AP) — Rain didn't damped the enthusiasm for Paul McCartney, who took the stage at the Glastonbury music festival to cheers from tens of thousands of concertgoers.

The 61-year-old former Beatle opened his set Saturday with "Jet," a hit from his time with Wings. The gig, which ends McCartney's monthlong European tour, is McCartney's first appearance at Britain's leading summer music festival.

More than 100,000 music fans endured several hours of rain on the second da.

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Panel wonders why two Muslims got help in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI long has contended that not a single al-Qaida operative in the United States collaborated with the 19 hijackers in the Sept. 11 attacks. Yet the commission investigating the attacks has identified two Muslim men who may have had advance knowledge of the plot.

The commission found that two hijackers got substantial help from Mohdar Abdullah and Anwar Aulaqi after settling in California in 2000. The bipartisan panel created by Congress said it cannot discount the possibility the men knew the hijackers' plans.

Abdullah, who recently was deported to Yemen, helped the hijackers get driver's licenses. He bragged, while in U.S. custody after the hijackings, that he had known the attacks were coming.

Aulaqi, a cleric who left the United States shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, introduced the two hijackers, Nawaf al-Hazmi and Khalid al-Mihdhar, to other people who helped provide living arrangements in this country.

The previously undisclosed information about Abdullah and Aulaqi was contained in one of the commission reports released this month.

The FBI is seeking to find and interview Aulaqi about his contacts with al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar. It is unclear if U.S. officials know where Aulaqi is.

FBI spokesman Mike Kortan said the Sept. 11 investigation is "ongoing and active" and that any new evidence will be examined closely.

A congressional investigation has concluded that the discovery of al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar in the United States probably represented the best chance for the FBI and CIA to disrupt the plot.

Both were known to the CIA because of connections to the October 2000 terrorist bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen that killed 17 U.S. sailors. Both had contacts with a longtime FBI informant.

FBI agents were searching for them in the weeks before the attacks because their names were on terrorism watch lists.

Al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar were among the first four al-Qaida members chosen in 1999 by Osama bin Laden for the hijacking plot proposed by Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, or KSM, the Sept. 11 mastermind now in U.S. custody.

Much of the commission report is derived from classified interrogations of Mohammed and another senior al-Qaida planner also in custody — Ramzi Binalshibh.

In general, the 19 hijackers were told to blend in while in the United States by avoiding mosques and fellow Islamic extremists. But al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar were different.

"Recognizing that neither Hazmi nor Mihdhar spoke English or was familiar with Western culture, KSM instructed these operatives to seek help from the local Muslim community," the report said.

Mohammed told the men to settle in San Diego. So they went there in February 2000 from Los Angeles with help from Omar al-Bayoumi, a Saudi who had an apartment complex there. Although Bayoumi helped the hijackers settle in San Diego, there is no evidence he knew they were terrorists, investigators say.

Al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar made friends in San Diego with some foreign students at the Rabat Mosque in suburban La Mesa. One was Mohdar Abdullah, who the report said was among those students who "appear to have held extremist sympathies."

Abdullah helped al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar get driver's licenses and enroll in schools in California. Shortly after the attacks, Abdullah told FBI agents in an interview he knew nothing about the plot.

But later, while held on immigration charges, Abdullah bragged to follow inmates that he had advance knowledge of the Sept. 11 mission and even had instructions to pick up plot operatives at Los Angeles International Airport before the attacks, according to the commission's report.

A fellow inmate wrote the Homeland Department last spring about Abdullah's claim, according to Jacqueline Maguire, an FBI agent working on the Sept. 11 investigation.

The FBI could not corroborate the inmate's story, she told the commission during its public hearing two weeks ago.

"Another inmate gave another story and the details differed quite significantly," Maguire said.

Ultimately, the FBI chose not to seek criminal charges against Abdullah. The bureau did have Abdullah deported to Yemen in May. Maguire said the CIA was aware of the decision and knows he is in Yemen.

According to the commission report, Al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar also established a relationship with Aulaqi, an imam at the Rabat Mosque. Aulaqi later moved to Virginia and worshipped at the Dar al-Hijra mosque in Falls Church, Va. Early in 2001, al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar drove across the country, settled in Alexandria, Va., and began attending Dar al-Hijra.

The commission report cited information that Aulaqi had "extremist ties, and the circumstances surrounding his relationship with the hijackers remains suspicious. However, we have not uncovered evidence that he associated with the hijackers knowing they were terrorists."

At the Falls Church mosque, the imam introduced the hijackers to a Jordanian, Eyad al Rababah, who helped them find an apartment.

In May 2001, al Rababah suggested that al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar move with him to Fairfield, Conn. The three eventually traveled to Paterson, N.J., where they rented an apartment with two other al-Qaida operatives.

The commission report said that despite this assistance, there is "insufficient basis" to conclude that Rababah knew that al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar were terrorists.

While al-Hazmi and al-Mihdhar did not succeed in their original mission — to learn English and become pilots — they were part of the team that commandeered the plane that crashed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11.

Emergency slides on planes often don't work, official says

WASHINGTON (AP) — American Airlines Flight 1128 was pushing back from the gate at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport last fall when fumes and smoke filled the cabin.

The captain declared an emergency and ordered an evacuation. Flight attendants rushed to deploy four slides so passengers could exit safely to the ground. The tail slide failed to inflate, however, and eight of the 94 people aboard were injured during the evacuation.

Faulty emergency chutes brought trouble this month to another carrier, United Airlines, when the government recommended a $1 million fine for operating a Boeing 777 on 263 flights when the plane did not have working slides.

Inspectors from the Federal Aviation Administration found that United's maintenance workers failed to remove a pin from the slides despite an attached streamer with instructions to "remove before flight." The pins made the slides inoperable.

Federal safety officials say it is an all-too-common occurrence: planes leave the gate with slides that would not work if they were needed.

Passengers and crew have about 90 seconds to evacuate a plane in an emergency, said Paul Hudson of Aviation Consumer Action Project. Any longer, he said, and "there's a strong probability they'll die of fire or smoke inhalation."

The National Transportation Safety Board estimates that slides fail in about one-third of all evacuations. A board study four years ago found that at least one slide failed to deploy in seven of 19 evacuations during a 14-month period.

"We need to find out why so many slides fail during actual evacuations," said the board's chairman, Ellen Engleman Conners.

The board, which makes safety recommendations, wants the FAA to require the airlines to test 10 percent of all evacuation slides to identify common problems. The FAA has been reluctant to do that.

Each carrier now must test some of its slides, though the rate is much lower than one in 10.

Testing would be more costly for airlines and would require that more planes be taken out of service.

"We are actively working to develop an alternate approach that would satisfy the intent of the safety recommendation," FAA spokesman Les Dorr said.

The agency recommended last year that airlines ensure maintenance manuals were updated and check parts of the slide assembly such as the pressure in the tank that inflates the device.

The FAA previously had allowed airlines to count inadvertent or emergency slide deployments toward the number of inspections required on slides each year. Last week, the agency said that no longer would be allowed.

A slide can fail because a cable is not attached properly, a hook on the cover catches on something, a regulator valve malfunctions or for other reasons.

In one case, a change in an airline's maintenance manual left it unclear who was supposed to conduct daily checks of inflation bottles that fill slides in an emergency. In a second case, slides were labeled incorrectly as automatic when they were manual.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

This testing is appropriate

DEAR DR. GOTT: I would like your assurance that physicians do not schedule tests for their patients based on some sort of "quota system."

I am 75 and in good health except for a troublesome cough for several days. During small talk with my doctor last week, I mentioned that the uphill trek from his parking lot to the office was not for oldies. His immediate response was, "How long has it been since you've had a chest X-ray?" Pretty long. So he scheduled me for the test that day. Later in the week, he called me back and said that the radiologist had suggested a CT scan. I had the study and was informed that it confirmed the presence of a "pneumonic process." The physician suggested that I see a pulmonary specialist, but I refused. (Except for smoking, I have no health-risk factors.) So he gave in and prescribed 10 days of antibiotics. At the conclusion of therapy, I had a follow-up chest X-ray that showed "improvement." He wants to see me again in three months for a follow-up exam. I think that doctors should put the brakes on just a little, don't you?

DEAR READER: I certainly endorse reasonable prudence in medical testing. However, in your case, the physician showed admirable judgment.

You are 75 and a smoker with a cough who has experienced some difficulty climbing a hill. Your practitioner appropriately picked up on this and ordered a chest X-ray as the first step in testing your cardiopulmonary efficiency. Apparently, the film showed a shadow that was further defined — by suitable testing — to be a patch of pneumonia. (As an aside, I suspect the doctors considered a lung malignancy with secondary pneumonia, an issue that has yet to be resolved.)

Following the CT report, your physician suggested a consultation with a pulmonary specialist. Again, a perfectly appropriate response. When you demurred, he agreed to a course of antibiotics, still an appropriate option. Fortunately, you improved.

To be honest, I fail to see how your doctor could be faulted in his approach: your testing was minimal (at least for now) and you are certainly not part of a "quota system."

I hope that your follow-up in three months is successful. I also hope that you have another CT scan at that time, because I continue to be concerned that your fundamental problem is more than a bout of pneumonia; I want to make sure that there isn't a more ominous cause of your cough and exercise intolerance. You may, in fact, require more "non-quota" testing. Meanwhile, I suggest that in three months you negotiate the hill from the parking lot to the office with as much zip as you can. Then, depending on your response, your doctor can best judge if a mild case of pneumonia should be further investigated.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Living with COPD." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 06-28-04
♠ 9 4
♥ A Q 9 4
♦ J 9 7 4
♣ Q 9 3

West
♠ 10 8 3 2
♥ J 7 5 3 2
♦ 3
♣ 8 6 5

East
♠ K 7 6
♥ 10 8
♦ A Q 10 8 6 5
♣ 7 4

South
♠ A Q J 5
♥ K 6
♦ K 2
♣ A K J 10 2

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
		Pass	2 ♦
Dbl.	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Dbl.
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 3

Monday, June 28, 2004

The best from one of the best

By Phillip Alder

Eddie Kantar has been writing bridge columns for more than 50 years. Now he has put his 96 favorites into the entertaining "Kantar on Kontract" (Master Point Press, 2004).

Kantar has a light style, with humor permeating the text. He shows some experts having monumental disasters, but also includes a lot of excellent play — as in this deal. If you were South, the declarer in six clubs, what would be your plan after West leads the diamond three?

East opened with a weak two-bid, promising a respectable six-card suit and 6-10 high-card points. In answer to South's takeout double, North bid two no-trump, not three hearts, because he wanted to show some points.

With the spade finesse working, six no-trump is the top spot. Against six clubs, the defenders can begin with a diamond to the ace and a diamond ruff. But luckily South had a lifesaver in the diamond deuce. At trick one, South calmly played the diamond king under East's ace!

Understandably, East thought his partner had started with the doubleton three-two. So, he shifted to a trump.

South won with dummy's club nine, played a spade to his queen, led a club to dummy's queen, took a second spade finesse, ruffed the spade five on the board, crossed to the heart king, drew the last trump, and claimed, his diamond loser disappearing on dummy's second high heart.

The book, autographed on request, is $18.95 postpaid from Eddie Kantar, 2700 Neilson Way #334, Santa Monica, Calif. 90405.

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Patterson Petroleum will drill the No. 2-A James A. Clark in the Kelly-Snyder field, one mile north of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 7,100 feet, drill site is in Section 179, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Borden County

Apache Corporation will drill the No. 1 Davis-Atkins, an 8,200-foot directional wildcat located eight miles north of Vincent. Location is in Section 68, Block 25, H&TC survey.

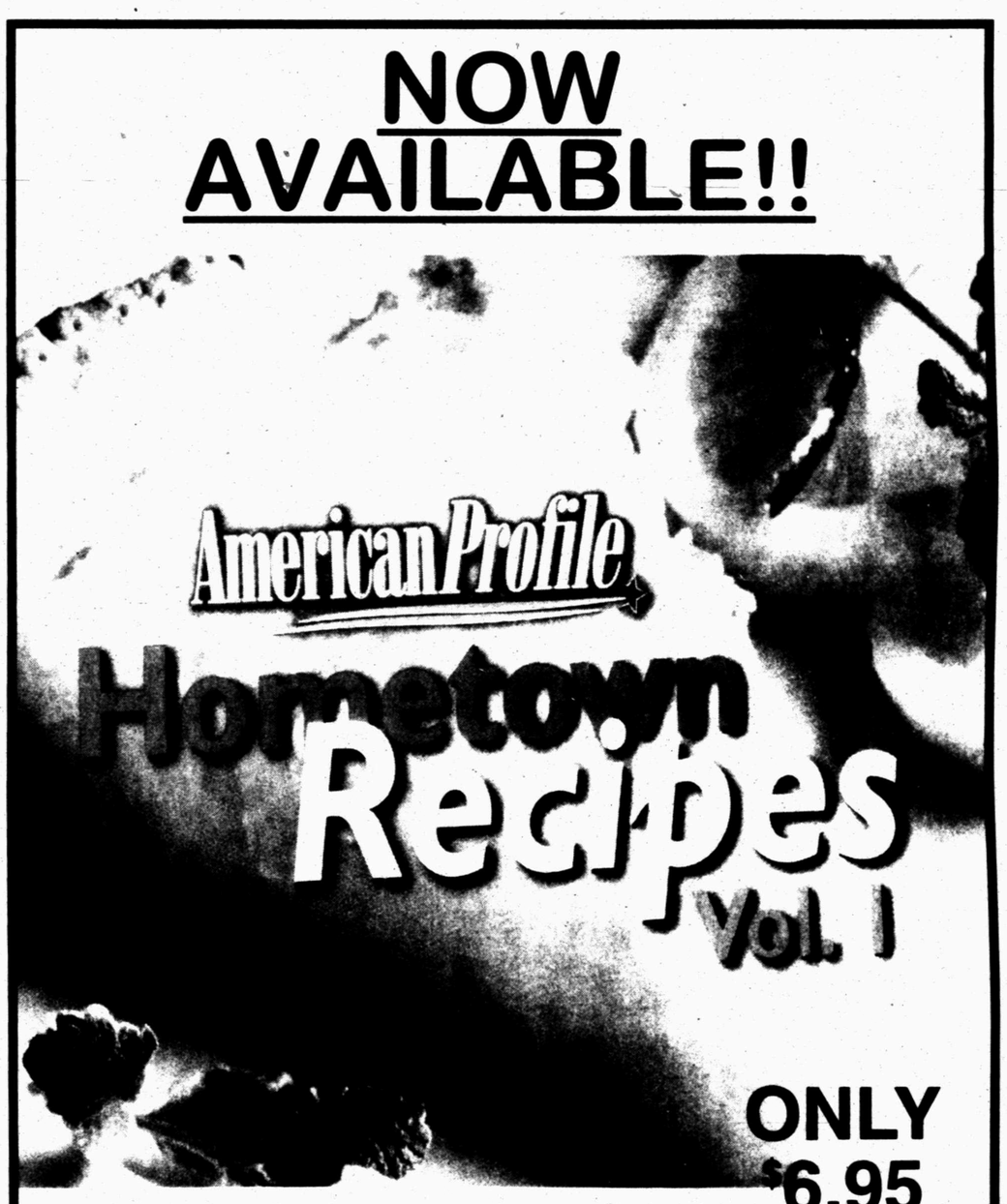
Fagadau Energy Corp. will drill the No. 9ST-26 Nan Martin, a 7,200-foot directional wildcat located nine miles northwest of Gail. Location is in Section 26, Block 31, T1N, T&P survey.

Howard County

WTG Exploration will drill the No. 1 Simpson, a 11,000-foot wildcat located three miles north of Luther. Location is in Section 2, Block 32, T2N, T&P survey.

Chaparral Energy will drill the No. 5-A Percy Jones in the Iatan East Howard field, seven miles southeast of Coahoma. Planned for a depth of 3,500 feet, location is in Section 13, Block 30, T1S, T&P survey.

Chaparral Energy will drill the No. 8-B Percy Jones in the Iatan East Howard field, seven miles southeast of Coahoma. Planned depth is 3,250 feet, and location is in Section 13, Block30, T1S, T&P survey.



Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

JUN 28 2004

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

NATO to help train Iraqi troops

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — NATO leaders agreed today to help train Iraq's armed forces just hours after the new government in Baghdad took over sovereignty from the U.S.-led administration.

The decision falls short of U.S. hopes that NATO would take a larger role in Iraq.

In a statement adopted at the opening session of a two-day summit, NATO leaders said, "We are united in our support for the Iraqi people and offer full cooperation to the new sovereign interim government as it seeks to strengthen internal security."

The alliance decision came hours after the United States transferred power two days ahead of schedule to the Iraqi administration. President Bush marked the transfer with a whispered comment and a handshake with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, gathered with other leaders around a table at the summit.

A statement called on alliance officials to "urgently" discuss details of the training plan with the Iraqi authorities, who are struggling to contain a wave of deadly insurgent attacks. NATO said it would also urgently consider "further proposals to support the nascent Iraqi security institutions."

It was unclear how many NATO instructors would be sent to Iraq or when they would leave. The leaders called on their representatives to work out the details "on an urgent basis" with the Iraqi leadership.

"It is the Iraqi government ... and only the Iraqi government that is going to decide" on the training, said NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

The United States had hoped that NATO would assume a major military role in Iraq, perhaps by taking over the multinational division currently run by Poland.

"There was no appetite for sending additional peacekeeping forces," Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said after meeting with NATO ministers.

Despite their speed in agreeing to the training, the allies remain divided over how to go ahead with the plan. France and Germany want a lower profile operation with NATO playing a coordinating role for national training programs.

Both countries said they would not send military instructors to Iraq, preferring to train officers outside the country. Sixteen NATO nations have sent troops to join coalition forces in Iraq, but opposition led by France and Germany has prevented the alliance from taking a collective role there.

Double-questioning by police improper, Supreme Court says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court warned police today to stop using a strategy intended to extract confessions from criminal suspects before telling them of their right to remain silent.

The court, on a 5-4 vote, said that deliberately questioning a suspect twice is usually improper.

Criminal defense attorneys and civil libertarians had complained that strategy was being used to get around the Supreme Court's landmark 1966 Miranda v. Arizona ruling, which requires that suspects in custody be told they have the right to remain silent.

The court had considered the treatment of murder suspect Patrice Seibert. The Missouri Supreme Court ruled that the two-step interrogation process used in her case was improper.

Such questioning can be successful because suspects may be more willing to talk before they're told they have a right to remain silent. And when told of their rights later, they may not realize their first confession can be used against them.

Seibert was convicted of plotting to set a 1997 fire that killed a teenager who had been staying at the family trailer in Rolla, Mo., a rural town in the Ozarks. Police said she arranged to have her home burned to cover up the death of her 12-year-old son, who had had cerebral palsy, in order to avoid neglect allegations.

Justice David H. Souter, writing for himself and three other liberal justices, said that the practice is worrisome because questioning tactics are taught at national training sessions.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy agreed with those four that the interrogation technique "undermines the Miranda warning and obscures its meaning."

The court left the door open for police to be able to use some confessions obtained after double interviews.

Kennedy said that police must be able to prove that the interrogation was not done "in a calculated way to undermine the Miranda warning."

In a dissent, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said it would be tough for lower courts to determine if officers had gone too far. She was joined by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas.

"In virtually every two-state interrogation case ... courts will be forced to conduct the kind of difficult, state-of-mind inquiry that we normally take pains to avoid," she wrote.

Engineer dies in train collision

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two freight trains collided this morning, killing an engineer, sending clouds of chlorine gas and ammonium nitrate into the sky and shutting down several city blocks.

Bexar County Sheriff's Department Deputy Chief Ray Trevino confirmed the death but said the number of injuries was still unclear. According to news reports, about 15 people were taken to Wilford Hall Medical Center at nearby Lackland Air Force Base for treatment.

A Burlington Northern Santa Fe freight train was pulling onto a siding when it was struck by a Union Pacific freight train about 5 a.m., said Joe Faust, a spokesman for Fort Worth-based Burlington. He said he had no details on how many cars derailed and whose train was the source of the chemical leaks. Trevino said the leaking cars appeared to be Union Pacific's.

Among the injured was a Bexar County sheriff's deputy who was treated and released after driving through the chlorine cloud, Trevino said.

Heavily traveled Loop 410 and Pearsall Road were closed near the wreck site, but no evacuations were ordered.

Six people arrested over weekend

• ***Arrests***

Police responded to a report of a driver with an open container of alcohol in the 2200 block of 26th St. at 1:19 p.m. Saturday and arrested Jorge Humberto Zuniga, 40, 2704 Ave. G, on charges of driving while intoxicated, unlawfully carrying a weapon and driving while license suspended.

A 29-year-old male was arrested on charges of driving while license suspended at 11:45 p.m. Saturday on Hwy. 84 and Huffman Ave.

Three people, a 25-year-old female, a 59-year-old male and a 43-year-old male were arrested on charges of public intoxication in the 500 block of College at 12:33 a.m. Sunday.

Also arrested for public intoxication was a 41-year-old male at 2:38 a.m. Sunday in the 100 block of 37th St.

• ***Theft***

Police responded to a report of the theft of a bank bag at The Shack at 10:27 p.m. Saturday. The theft is still under investigation.

A tire was reported stolen in the 1000 block of German St. in Hermleigh at 8:42 p.m. Saturday.

• ***Criminal mischief***

Police responded to a call of someone throwing eggs at 8:51 a.m. Saturday in the 2000 block of Ave. O.

Juveniles throwing rocks at a vehicle was reported at 5:07 p.m. Saturday at Eastridge St. and Brickplant Road.

Three juvenile females were reported throwing a ball in front of traffic at Ave. E and 37th St. at 7:44 p.m. Sunday.

Police reported two females swimming at Towle Park Swimming Pool at 11:26 p.m. Sunday when the pool was closed.

• ***Disturbance***

A disturbance was reported in the 2100 block of Ave. I at 10:22 a.m. Saturday. One person was taken to the hospital but no charges were filed at the time.

• ***Burglary of a vehicle***

A vehicle was reported burglarized at 10:43 a.m. Saturday in the 2200 block of 40th Street.

• ***Grass fires***

A grass fire was reported in the 2800 block of Ave. K at 1:37 p.m. and at Roundtop Road and FM 1611 at 3:54 p.m.

• ***Fireworks***

Peace officers responded to eight calls concerning illegal fireworks.

Births

Chris and Chelsea Chaney announce the birth of their son, Christopher Cole Chaney II, at 9:46 a.m. on June 27 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed seven pounds, three ounces.

Paternal grandparents are Larry and Sherry Chaney of Colorado City and Josie Gillian of Big Spring. Maternal grandparents are Roger and Cassie Davidson of Loraine.

Obituaries

Freddie Everton

1934-2004

Freddie Everton, longtime Snyder resident, died this morning of an apparent heart attack on the Lamesa highway.

Graveside service for Mr. Everton, 69, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Colorado City Cemetery. The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired minister, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 8, 1934 in Eastland, he married Betty Hataway on Aug. 31, 1999 in Las Vegas.

Mr. Everton was the owner of Xpert Oil Tool Co. in Snyder.

He was preceded in death by a son, Freddie Joe Everton, on Oct. 19, 2002; a grandson, Chad Everton, on April 29, 2003; and his parents, Cyrus David and Myrtle Woodall Everton.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Everton of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Linda and Donnie Trant of La Porte; a son, Sid Everton of Snyder; a stepdaughter, Trudy Hataway of Fort Worth; a stepson, Joe Hataway of Fort Worth; three sisters, Wanda Neil, Lottie and Bobbie Nell Spauldin, all of Hamlin; two brothers, Johnny Everton of Massachusetts and Homer Everton of Hamlin.

Opal Eades

1917-2004

Opal Wood Eades, a longtime Snyder resident, died Saturday, June 26, in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Eades, 86, was set for 2 p.m. today in the Camp Springs Cemetery. The Rev. Charles Day, pastor of the Avenue D Baptist Church, was to officiate. Arrangements were under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 24, 1917 in Arkansas, she married Chester Paul Eades on March 14, 1936 in Snyder. He died March 18, 1973.

Survivors include a brother, Johnny Wood of Mesquite; and two nephews, Jesse Dale Wood of Forney and Ricky Lee Wood of Mesquite.

Amos Martinez

1961-2004

ABILENE — Amos (Goose) Sidney Martinez of Abilene, brother of Teresa Galindo of Snyder, died Wednesday, June 23.

A memorial service is set for 4 p.m. Tuesday at 8341-A Hardwick Rd. He will be cremated. Arrangements were made by Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home.

He was born April 12, 1961 in Eagle Lake, Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Irma Jean Hernandez of Abilene; a son, (B.J.) William James Hernandez of Abilene; a daughter, Jackie Michelle Martinez of Abilene; his mother, Serveera Longoria of Abilene; two other sisters, Carol Gaona of Jasper and Frances Luna of Edinburg; a daughter-in-law, Tishia Belknap; a granddaughter, Felicity Paige Hernandez.

A memorial fund for Mr. Martinez has been established in the name of Irma Hernandez at First National Bank of Abilene.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave
325-573-3851

COUNTRYPLACE
Floral & Gifts
4213 College
325-573-1817

WCFH
Independently Owned & Operated
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

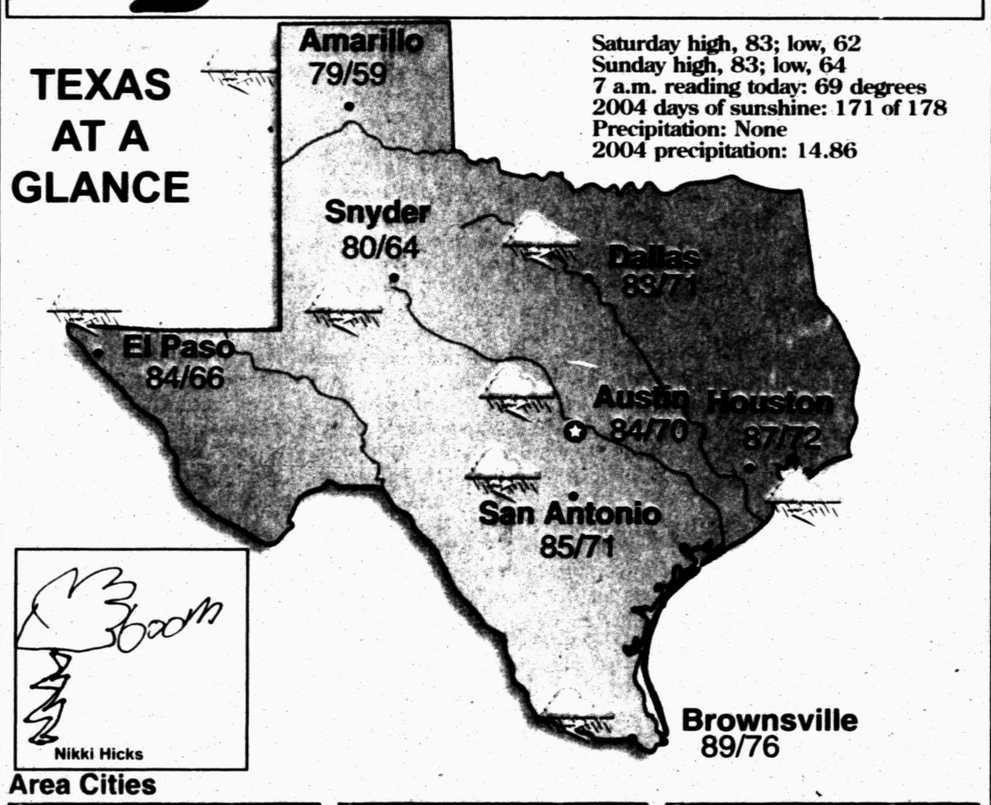
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 6/29	Wed 6/30	Thu 7/1
80/64	81/63	87/65
Partly to mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers or thunderstorms poss.	Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.
Sunrise 6:39 AM, Sunset 8:56 PM	Sunrise 6:39 AM, Sunset 8:56 PM	Sunrise 6:40 AM, Sunset 8:56 PM

Texas Savings Bank
Community Minded.
2619 College Avenue
573-9305
FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Saturday high, 83; low, 62
Sunday high, 83; low, 64
7 a.m. reading today: 69 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 171 of 178
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 14.86

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	80	66	t-storm	El Paso	84	66	t-storm	Midland	84	65	t-storm
Amarillo	79	59	t-storm	Fort Stockton	81	64	t-storm	Ravmondville	91	74	t-storm
Austin	84	70	t-storm	Gainesville	81	67	t-storm	Rosenberg	88	71	t-storm
Beaumont	87	71	t-storm	Greenville	84	68	t-storm	San Antonio	85	71	t-storm
Brownsville	89	76	t-storm	Houston	87	72	t-storm	San Marcos	84	71	t-storm
Brownwood	82	67	t-storm	Kingsville	88	73	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	82	68	t-storm
Corpus Christi	86	75	t-storm	Livingston	84	69	t-storm	Sweetwater	80	65	t-storm
Corsicana	82	69	t-storm	Longview	83	69	t-storm	Tyler	84	69	t-storm
Dallas	83	71	t-storm	Lubbock	78	62	t-storm	Weatherford	81	67	t-storm
Del Rio	85	70	t-storm	Lufkin	83	69	t-storm	Wichita Falls	82	66	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	84	68	t-storm	Houston	87	72	t-storm	Phoenix	104	77	mst sunny
Boston	76	62	pt sunny	Los Angeles	71	59	pt sunny	San Francisco	68	55	mst sunny
Chicago	81	62	mst sunny	Miami	90	80	t-storm	Seattle	76	56	mst sunny
Dallas	83	71	t-storm	Minneapolis	83	64	mst sunny	St. Louis	83	66	mst sunny
Denver	74	56	t-storm	New York	80	66	pt sunny	Washington, DC	84	66	pt sunny

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jun 25	Jul 2	Jul 9	Jul 17

UV Index

Tue 6/29	Wed 6/30	Thu 7/1
High	Very High	Extreme

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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